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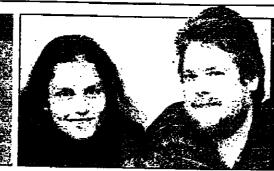
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**SPORT** Nothing to cheer in Harare PAGE 22



THE TABLOID Love and money: how couples share the spoils



COMMENT Why Julia Roberts loves her Aga

# Israel in race to save peace

Backlash feared in Hebron after Jew shoots 8 Arabs

**Eric Silver** Jerusalem

Israeli and Palestinian leaders were struggling yesterday to prevent the actions of a fanatical Jewish gunman from derailing an agreement to redeploy Israeli troops in the last West Bank city under occupation.

An off-duty Israeli soldier sprayed bullets at Palestinian shoppers in a market in the heart of Hebron yesterday in an attempt to sabotage the imminent handover of about 80 per cent of the city to Palestinian self-rule.

After a long day of diplomatic contacts, talks resumed last night at the home of the United States ambassador, Martin Indyk, near Tel Aviv. The two most senior negotiators, the Israeli Defence Minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, returned to the table.

David Bar-Illan, chief media adviser to Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, told The Independent: "A meeting between Mr Netanvahu and Mr Arafat is possible tonight or tomorrow." He cautioned, however, that there might be delays because of the shooting.

The American mediator Dennis Ross played a key role in bringing the sides together again. He spent the whole of yesterday afternoon in intensive consultations with Mr

Arafat in Gaza. Israeli security forces were on the alert last night after rumours spread from Gaza that the fundamentalist Hamas and Islamic Jihad militias were planning revenge. Khalid Amavreh, a veteran Hebron Arab journalist, commented after the shooting, which wounded eight



Under arrest: Gunman Noam Friedman is taken into custody by Israeli soldiers after being overpowered following his attack in the Hebron market place

Palestinians: "Had there been a Mr Arafat to condemn the shooting massacre, even Yasser Arafat would as "a despicable crime". He reiter-

avenging the dead." Mr Netanyahu reacted swiftly to redeployment. "No crime," he control the damage, telephoning promised, will stand in our way."

not have been able to prevent Hamas ated his commitment to the speedy implementation of the Hebron

Saeb Erakat, a leading Palestinian negotiator, said Mr Netanyahu had to choose between the peace process and appeasing Jewish settlers.

"The Israeli government." Mr shows how important the peace Erakat told *The Independent*, "must process is."

choose - either be partners with us in the peace process, or be partners with the extremists and the settlers. They can't have both. This shooting

In Hebron, the Arab mayor, Mustafa Natshe, urged restraint so that the agreement could be implemented, but complained that Mr Netanyahu talked only about the settlers' security. "He is forgetting the

Ten seconds that shook the Middle East. Fanatic aimed to sabotage handover. Arab fears over Clinton's new team. Diary of violence. Page 10

security of the Palestinians. They are left to the mercy of the settlers and the Israelis.

Shopkeepers in the market where Noam Friedman, a 19-year-old army conscript emptied his M-16 automatic rifle were less diplomatic. Ahmed Nasser said: "The settlers must be disarmed and moved out of Hebron. There will never be any security here as long as they can carry guns."

David Wilder, a spokesman for the 450 Hebron Jews, drew a contrary, apocalyptic conclusion. When Arafat's people take over most of the city, thousands of Palestinians could descend on the Jewish quarter in minutes and overwhelm us," he said. "The only solution is to have the Israeli army remain the sole military authority in all of Hebron."

The settlers' spokesman acknowledged, however, that Mr Netanyahu had passed a point of no return. Mr Mordechai, the Defence Minister, reaffirmed during an emergency visit to Hebron that the army was ready to pull out as soon as the politicians gave the order.

Under the agreement, Israel is to hand 80-85 per cent of the city to the Palestinian Authority. It will retain control over the Jewish enclave. where 40 families live in the midst of 150,000 Arabs. Up to 20,000 Palestinian residents will remain under Israeli rule.

The two immediate issues left for vesterday's projected negotiations were a Palestinian demand to share in security arrangements at the Tomb of the Patriarchs, a shrine sacred to Jews and Muslims, and the pace at which a main road running through the Jewish enclave would be reopened to Palestinian traffic.

Middle East shaken, page 10

# Tory threatens to bring down Major

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

A second Conservative backbench MP was last night threatening to withdraw his support from the Government, and said the general election should "come sooner rather than later" to stop the "drift" in John Major's Government.

Terry Dicks. MP for Hayes and Harlington and a former ministerial aide, told The Independent he would take the whip from David Trimble, the Ulster even if it brought down the

Mr Dicks is angry at Mr Ma-jor's refusal to rule out a single European currency and furious over the use of his name by "cheating" Government whips to win a vote on European fishing policy; but the crunch for him is the risk of more concessions to Sinn Fein in the Ulster talks. "We have given way all down the line. If there is a vote of no confidence, if the Ulster

Unionist leader, in a vote of Unionists don't go with [the confidence on an Ulster issue, Government] on Northern Ireland, I will take their advice on

Northern Ireland, rather than the Conservative Party on that? "I would be surprised if we don't have an election by mid-March. Some of my colleagues are saying the sooner the bet-ter... It is just drift now." Although Tony Blair has repeatedly insisted he will not bring the Government down over Northern Ireland, he gave a pledge this week to take every

opportunity to force an early

election, and the Ulster Union-ists' nine MPs will play a crucial

Mr Dicks is regarded as a malcontent by Government whips, but his threat to join Sir John Gorst, the Tory MP for Hendon North, who has withdrawn from the Tory whip over a local hospital row, has to be taken seriously by the Government with its majority wiped out by by-elections and defections. Mr Dicks, who is stepping down at the election, said: "I have said to the whips, they are playing

their cards close to their chest;

I am going to do same.' Ministers may be forced to listen to backbench calls. On New Year's Eve, John Marshall, the Tory MP for Hendon South, wrote to the Chancellor to ask for up to £15m for hardship payments for haemophiliacs who have contracted hepatitis "C" but who are denied the compensation offered to haemo-

philiacs with Aids. The lack of a majority is opening ministers to ransom from backbenchers. The Prime

Minister will try to rally his troops in an interview on Sunday on BBC's Breakfast with Frost. It will coincide with the launch of the Tory campaign on the "folly" of Labour policies, with no let-up to the election.

John Prescott, the Labour deputy leader, was out campaigning in marginals in West Yorkshire, in spite of the snow drifts. "I am here like all Labour candidates who want to get Labour's message across. It is one that is as white as this snow,

## The show goes on, but sport is

Louise Jury

The Siberian weather froze out much of the New Year's Day sporting facures yesterday amid predictions of more bitter cold conditions to come.

With wind chill taking temperatures down to -21C at receiving 10,000 calls on New Langdon Bay, near Dover, Kent, and most of the country shivering at -7C, even Iceland was warmer than Britain.

Frozen pitches prevented three FA Carling Premiership football games from going ahead and another 25 Nationwide League matches fell victim to the cold. Ten matches were lost in the Bell's Scottish League and rughy union and

league were also hit. In racing, which has seen 33 meetings postponed since Boxing Day, the only meeting unaffected was on the all-weather track at Lingfield.

The effect on the roads was even more alarming. The RAC repeated its warning to motorists not to make unnecessary journeys in the worst-hit rural areas including the Peak District, the Midlands, Kent, Sussex and mid-Wales. After Year's Eve, about 50 per cent more than normal, the organisation was prepared for at least as many yesterday.

frozen out

Essex police reported at least 20 motorists abandoned their cars in snowdrifts while widespread snow and ice made conditions hazardous in many other parts of the country. The River Thames turned to sheet ice for several hundred yards between Pangbourne and Streatley, Berkshire. An elderly woman driver in Wales escaped when her car careered off the A458 Weishpool to Dolgellau road and was stopped from



New Year's freeze: Cheerleaders try and get warm yesterday before the London Parade, in which about 8,000 people took part in sub-zero temperatures Photograph: Andrew Buurman

rolling into the River Banwy only by trees on the bank.

But others were less fortunate. In Bristol, a 64-year-old man was killed by a car when he walked on the road to avoid slippery pavements and in Reading an elderly woman was killed when she slipped and fell in front of a car. A woman driver was killed in a car crash at South the adequacy of cold weather terday.

Newington, near Banbury, Ox- social security payments fordshire, and a 26-year-old man died in a head-on collision near Bath. A 17-year-old teenager who had been re-

ported missing by his mother was found dead in a field in Rochford, Essex. Police said the death was "not suspicious".

prompted the Scottish Nationalist Party to table a series of parliamentary questions. The biggest casualty in soc-

cer was the Premiership clash between Southampton and third-placed Wimbledon, which followed the Derby and Leices-Continuing concerns over ter games in being called off yes-

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### QUICKLY

IRA 'gangsters' The Northern Ireland Secretary called the IRA "criminal gangsters" after a suspect bomb was found in Belfast. Page 2

Little readers A third of all men have not read a book for pleasure for more than five years, according to a gurvey. Page 3

CONTENTS The Broadsheet Home News ......2-7 Leading Articles, Letters . . . 11 The Tabloid

Arts Reviews .....19

As part of our quest for a deeper understanding of the

real meaning of the millennium

a new national awards initiative HOPE 2000

is being launched in 1997. Projects offering signs of Hope

are encouraged to apply for development awards.

Preliminary information on HOPE 2000 is available from Hope Direct, Hope Park, Liverpool, L16 9JD. 0151 291 3820



DUCATING THE WHOLE PERSON IN MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

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Predict

Anot Skydon David McKittrick ireland correspondent

The Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, launched a strong attack on the IRA yesterday as army experts spent the day dealing with a suspect bomb in a van in north Belfast.

Bomb-disposal personnel carried out a controlled explogrounds of Belfast Castle on had been abandoned in the grounds because of security activity in the area.

In a BBC radio interview yesterday. Sir Patrick concentrated his fire on the IRA, saying that the Government had been flexible in the peace process but sion on a van parked in the had had its efforts rejected. He added: "I'm afraid it demon-

who will continue to wave the Armalite in one hand while using the ballot box in the other.

The placing of the Belfast Castle device fits into the recently established pattern of the IRA attempting to carry out bomb attacks, in Belfast and elsewhere, every few days. Most

Tuesday night. A telephone caller who gave a recognised IRA codeword said a landmine strates that those who have abortive for various reasons, but but a lot of criminal gangsters, rity forces predict it is only a matter of time before one of the attacks "connects" and causes

casualties. The most notorious of the IRA attacks came just before Christmas when a gunman opened fire on police officers in the corridor of children's hosoital in Belfast. This caused

widespread condemnation and bility for the attacks, security led to two loyalist bomb attacks. sources hold the Ulster Defence In another incident, a wellknown north Belfast republican, Eddie Copeland. was injured when a booby-trap bomb went off under his car. Another similar device was attached to a vehicle belonging to a former

republican prisoner in Londonderry, but this was spotted.

Association responsible. Loyalist sources confirm this privately. In addition to the attacks, two senior republican figures, Mar-tin McGuinness and Belfast councillor Alex Maskey, have been warned by the RUC that their lives are in danger.

Asked vesterday about loyalist violence, Sir Patrick was determinedly reticent, in contrast

ist ceasefire was over, adding of the Copeland bomb attack: "I don't as yet know, and I don't think anybody as yet knows, who did that evil thing.

This is at odds with the security assessment that the UDA was undoubtedly responsible. Sir Patrick's circumspection is assumed to be related to the

to his uninhibited rhetoric Stormont political talks, in against the republicans. He said he did not think the loyaling part. A clear public linkage of the bombings to the UDA would endanger the UDP's continuing involvement in the talks. The Government and most other parties are auxious to avoid the expulsion of the low alists, which means that at pre-sent most are refraining from publicly pointing the finger.



Sporting chance: West Bromich Albion supporters trying to make the pitch ready for yesterday's game against Tranmere. They succeeded, but West Brom lost the match Photograph: Gavin Fogg

# Giant Hogmanay cuts London down to size

**Louise Jury** 

Thousands braved freezing temperatures to welcome the New Year in Edinburgh, where the size of the celebrations rivalled other traditional gatherings around the world.

The Scottish capital hosted the largest party in Britain with 350,000 people packing the centre of the city. This compared with crowds of 400,000 in Sydney, Australia, and 500,000 in New York. By comparison, only about 70,000 people enjoyed the traditional countdown to midnight in Trafalgar Square, London.

The Scottish celebrations were sponsored this year by McEwan's the brewers and by Richard Branson's Virgin empire. A spokeswoman for the organisers. Unique Events, said: New York, eat your heart out!

"The whole city is packed, and this Hogmanay is definitely going to be Edinburgh's and the world's biggest and best. People are coming in from all over the world."

Four hundred police attended helped by 200 stewards and 21 people were arrested for minor offences, most of them alcohol-related. Edinburgh Royal Infirmary treated 322 people. A spokeswoman, Catherine Lang, said most were suffering "acute alcohol abuse to the point of unconsciousness' and there was a "fairly small" number of fractures from people who had fallen over in the snowy, slippery streets.



Animal magic: An inflatable Mighty Mouse was among attractions in the London Parade yesterday Photograph: Philip Meech

Square was the coldest for almost 20 years and the number attending showed that a decline is continuing from a peak of about 120,000 five years ago. Since two women were crushed number in the square.

en to hospital with minor injuries and 58 people were normal for the tra arrested, mostly for drunken- to the New Year.

New Year's Eve in Trafalgar to death in 1982, police have ness. The cold affected the made efforts to keep down the chimes of Big Ben earlier in the day, causing an uneven tone. However, a thorough check-up normal for the traditional start

In Birmingham there were two arrests in a crowd of 30,000. An estimated 15,000 gathered in George Square, Glasgow, for a firework display.

The celebrations were marred in Cardiff where 18-

year-old Bilal Hussein Bhayat from Birmingham, died at a commercial rave party. Police were carrying out drug tests.

In Cosham, Hampshire, another 18-year-old was struck on the head with an axe during a confrontation at a party. In the Irish Republic, three people suffered knife wounds in Dublin after two men burst into a party and slashed them.

Celebrations around the world sometimes proved dangerous. Four people stopped breathing and another 29 needed hospital treatment after drinking a mysterious orange herbal stimulant at a rock concert in Los Angeles, in the US.

At least 10 people died and more than 300 were injured by fireworks in road accidents or fights during festivities in the Philippines. A 35-year-old man died in Copenhagen, Denmark, after he ignited a box of fireworks and it blew up. In the centre of the the Danish capital. 18 people were arrested as rioters

fought with police. Hong Kong celebrated its last New Year before the British colony reverts to Chinese control.

Its future leader, Tung Chechwa, said: "The new year of 1997 is different from years in the past. It marks the beginning of a new era."

The fun continued in London vesterday where a crowd of about 100,000 watched the 11th London Parade. About 8.000 people played music, twirled batons and marched.

### significant shorts

### Police hold man over murder

A man was due to be questioned last night about the murder of a 90-year-old man found strangled, beaten and bound in his home.

The 25-year-old from the New Brancepeth area of Co Durham was arrested on New Year's Eve by detectives hunting the killer of Wilf Mann, a retired cobbler. His body was discovered

after a neighbour and a council care worker went to investigate after hearing a noise just before 9.30am on Tuesday. They saw a man leave the back door, run through the garden and leave by the gate.

The man was wearing a distinctive turquoisecoloured hip length jacket and a grey trilby hat.

### Armada sails against drugs Skippers of small boats are

being targeted by customs and police officers to spy against drug traffickers. Yacht and motor boat owners at the London Boat show, which started yesterday, were being urged to be on the look-out for possible unauthorised landings by foreign vessels, boats out of normal shipping lanes, ships signalling ashore or being met by small craft,

vessels operating at night without lights, and unusual aircraft movements. Boy, 14, dies in

stolen car A boy, 14, died yesterday after the stolen car he was travelling in crashed while being chased by police. John Gough, of Wolverhampton, died after the crash in Walsall, West Midlands,

police said. A 19-year-old Wolverhampton man also travelling in the stolen Vauxhall Astra was injured.

### Free sex blamed for rising crime

Sexual freedom, rather than poverty, is largely to blame for rising levels of crime and disorder, according to a report from the Institute of Economic Affairs yesterday. Its author, Norman

Dennis, a social scientist and Labour Party member. argues that the freedom of men "to engage in sexual intercourse without being constrained" by the pressi to become monogamous husbands or fathers is closely

linked with crime. Jobless young men and women and single mothers were partly to blame for their own low incomes because of their lifestyles, according to the report The Invention of Permanent Poverty.

Their situation was attributable to the breakdown of cultural mechanisms which once transmitted "messages of responsibility, striving, self-help and selfimprovement".

### Driven to distraction

A couple are seeking compensation after their stolen car was recovered and then stolen again while it was stored in a police compound

awaiting fingerprint checks.

The Ford Orion belonging to Diane and Paul Edwards, both 26, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, eventually turned up two days later everely damaged.

# Hospital beats

flu crisis A hospital which appealed for emergency staff after more than 20 nurses were hit by flu yesterday said it had received an "excellent"

response. The Joyce Green Hospital in Dartford, Kent, was back to full staff after the appeal on local radio.

### THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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BACK ISSUES

# Why employers put accent on manner of speech

The Scouser and Brummie who believe the world is prejudiced against them because of their accent may be right.

People with strong regional accents are often discriminated against at work or when applying for jobs, according to a survey of recruitment specialists. Some members of the Insti-

tute of Personnel and Development (IPD) advised anyone wanting to get on in life to adjust their vowels as necessary. "I would advise anyone with

a 'redbrick' or industrial accent to upgrade. Politicians and lawyers do it so why shouldn't others?" said one Londonbased recruitment consultant. "[Accent] communicates background, education and birthplace and, frankly, some hackgrounds are more marketable than others."

Accents were seen as important by many employers and people with strong regional or working-class accents were most likely to suffer discrimination, the IPD members said.

Companies took accents seriously because they could project an organisation's image. An

"People in frontal house po-sitions, from telephonists to account management therefore account managers are therefore expected to specific way.

Some of the conditions were more direct. "Leastee it, per-

more direct. "Leaster II, por ple with a Scouse scent sound whiny and people in Brummie accents sound sum," said one. The Glaswesin accent, along with those of Liverpool and Birmingham, also figured in the "negative" category.

However, cut-siass Fagure

However, cut-glass English was not always an auvantage

In Scotland, an upper-class English accent "positively inclass hostility", according to the chief executive of one recruitment A Dorset waman question

for the survey said she had no idea how strong the attitude to accents was until she moved to London. "As soon as I opened my mouth, people would be queuing up to do Worzel Gan-midge imitations," she said "A lot of people seem to E

that if you spoke with a Do accent, you were thick and educated. Some would slow down or speak lo when they were talking to

Tony Heath

A consortium of Welsh local councils is poised to sign a contract with the resurgent Tower Colliery that will pare thousands of pounds from heating bills in schools, libraries, old people's homes and town halls.

near Aberdare, comes on the second anniversary of the workers takeover of the pit which was saved from closure when 240 men each chipped in £8,000 a co-operative. Because the colliery can self its coal substantially cheaper than gas, the heating bills of eight councils will fall by up to

25 per cent over the next two

years. Just over 100 buildings

will be supplied with Tower

coal - a step towards increasing

the colliery's sales to public ser-

vice customers, many of whom

switched to gas in the wake of

The deal with the colliery.

the 1984-85 miners' strike. Tyrone O'Sullivan, formerly the National Union Mineworkers lodge secretary at Tower and now a director of the co-operative, said: "One of our aims is to re-establish coal as a credible alternative fuel."

Tower, the sole surviving deep mine in Wales turned in a profit of £4m on a £22m turnover in its second year of operations, an achievement celebrated with a £500 per head Christmas bonus and a 5 per cent pay rise. Since the miners took over from British Coal on 2 January 1995, production has averaged more

an 8,000 tons a week. With male unemployment in the Aberdare district at 21 per cent. Tower plays a vital part in sustaining the local economy. The pit has even taken on extra men, including teenage apprentices - a traditional route to work that pessimists claimed had been consigned to history.

# Colliery deal to cut school heating bills docreading moved composition degrading moral campaign

Chief Political Correspondent

A government minister yesterday accused five bishops of 'degrading" the campaign for moral revival by Frances Lawrence, the widow of the murdered London headmaster

Philip Lawrence.
Ann Widdecombe, a Home Office minister who was made a privy counsellor in the New Year Honours, angrily re-sponded to the claims by the five Church of England bishops that the Government had failed to give a moral lead.

Ms Widdecombe attacked

the hishops after New Year's messages in which they criticised

Thatcherism for encouraging in-

dividualism, at the expense of

community spirit. She said: "I

would want her important message degraded in that way, "The fact is that Tony Blair offers more unemployment with his policy of joining the So-cial Chapter and what do the

bishops have to say about that? "Responsibility on the part of the individual is not just discharged by paying ever more taxes to the state.

"It sounds to me as if the bishops should be encouraging people to vote Conservative if they are really concerned about personal responsibility. Ms Widdecombe, who converted to Roman Catholicism from the Church of England after it introduced the ordination of women, added: "I am not at all surprised at this . . . it is the

latest in a series of party polit-

ical pronouncements from the

Church of England."

Another right-winger, the Conservative MP and former Minister Ray Whitney accused the bishops of "bias and want of logic". The Bishop of Oxford, rightly calls for a renewal of personal responsibility yet condemns the Conservative emphasis on personal morality. He seeks to justify this paradox by alleging that the Government

wishes to resist fundamental economic and political changes that threaten the privileged position of its supporters' "He does not specify the changes he has in mind but no doubt higher taxes and increased public control of the economy would feature promi-

nently. These were precisely the policies which impoverished Britain in the Sixties and Seventies. The Bishop of Oxford, the

Right Rev Richard Harries, one of the most outspoken bishops. appeared to offer Tony Blair an dorsement for guiding the Labour Party back to its moral roots. He said it offered the likelihood of a government which would emphasise "changing the conditions which depress and degrade the lives of so many of our fellow citizens". Bishop Harries echocd Mrs

Lawrence by saying people wanted a renewal of personal responsibility and a quest for deso much of what is going on in our society". The Right Rev David Sheppard, Bishop of Liv-erpool, said there was a national fatalism which was sapping the will to tackle mass unemploy-

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# The joy of reading leaves men on the shelf

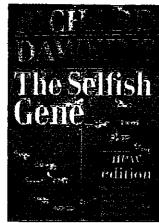
Marianne Macdonald and Michael Streeter

When it comes to reading habits, women are chapters ahead of men, a survey reveals today.

The study of what Britons

read - and when - found that 35 per cent of men had not read a book for pleasure for five years or more, compared to only one in five women.

The Book Marketing Ltd survey also reveals that while 47 per cent of women claimed to have finished a book in the previous fortnight, only 30 per



🐌 A trophy: Dawkins's work may be for the bookcase

cent of men could say the same. Reading habits differ markedly with age, according to the survey, reported in the latest issue of Cultural Trends, from the Policy Studies Institute. While only 18 per cent of those aged 15 to 24 had read a book in the week before they were questioned, the figure for people aged between 25 and 34 was 21 per cent, and 41 per cent for those over 55.

Cookery books, with Delia Winter Collection and other

ular type of book bought, although romantic fiction and puzzle books have the biggest' volume of sales.

In 1995, for example, culinary titles were bought by 21 per cent of those who purchased a book compared to 18 per cent who bought a crime story or thriller, 12 per cent who bought a romantic novel and 7 per cent who bought a work of 20th-century

A quick look around London book stores yesterday bore out some of the findings, with a range of cooking books, romantic works and thrillers among the most popular.

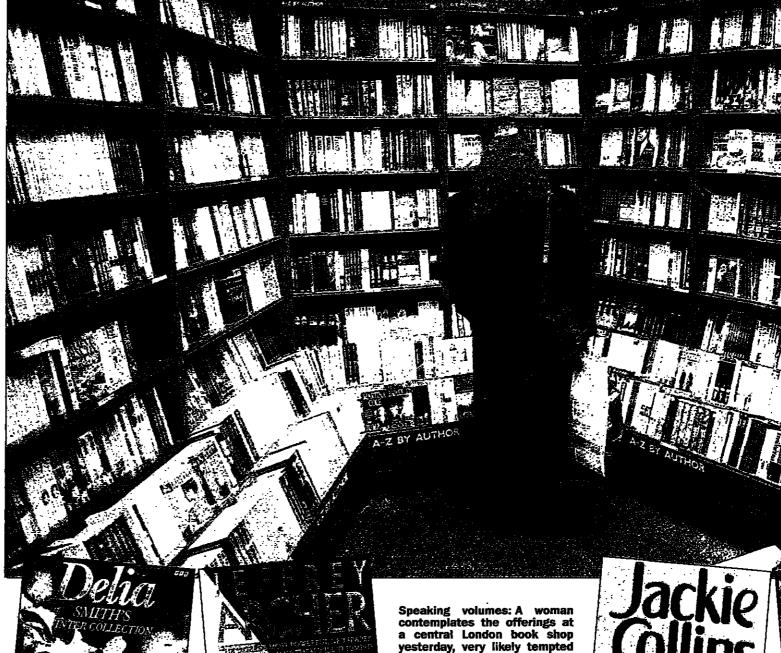
Among those most prominently displayed were the Jeffrey Archer blockbuster, The Fourth Estate, Jackie Collins's Vendetta: Lucky's Revenge, Dick Francis's latest best-seller Come to Grief and an array of titles by the horror writer Stephen King and the thriller expert John Grisham.

However, there was good news for those who prefer more high-brow reads. Richard Green, manager of Dillons book store in Trafalgar Square, said that unlike some earlier Booker Prize winners, Graham Swift's Last Orders had been doing well. "It is a readable book and sold very very well at Christmas." he said.

Also selling well are "trophy books such as Richard Dawkins's The Selfish Gene; titles which look good on the bookcase but which tend to be more purchased than read.

The finding that women are greater readers than men was supported by a quick survey of

are continually trying to change and improve themselves, and Smith's many titles such as are more flexible and open to new experiences," Liz Kay, a cubooks linked to television series rator at the Tate Gallery, said.



صكذا س الاعل

she was aware of the difference among her friends. If you ask lished has risen steadily since in 1985 to £1.673m in 1994. "I think it's because women read they're likely to have forgotten or they will change the just over 95,000 in 1995.

subject. With a woman you're more likely to get into a lengthy an average of £7.93 for a nov-

discussion about it." el in the first half of 1991 to But whichever sex you are, it £8.99 in the second half of ences books, or newspapers.

Tamsin Summerson. 22. said is getting harder to be well-read. 1995. Consumer spending on the was aware of the difference. The number of books pubbooks has jumped, from £755m.

tion - 55 per cent - use libraries to borrow books, while a further 15 per cent make use of their other services, such as their music libraries, computers, refer-

declining in 1987 there were 2.4 households had a computer, education. "New media are still books per head of population only 7 per cent of the popula- no match for the book and new in England and Wales, com- tion had a multi-media capacpared with 2.18 in 1994. Expenditure by the Department of the computer rival to books. National Heritage on libraries was cut by 13.5 per cent between

by such offerings as the latest

from Delia Smith, left, Jeffrey

Archer, Jackie Collins or John

Main photograph:

1992 and 1993. The survey found that al-

But book stock in libraries is though nearly 30 per cent of reference and 22 per cent for ity necessary to run CD-ROMs,

Of those that did, 69 per cent used it for work and 50 per cent for game-playing, but only 24 per cent used CD-ROMs for

technology has not yet made any impact on people's reading habits," Rachel Dunlop, PSI research fellow, said. But she

# New crackdown on shops that sell aphrodisiac drug

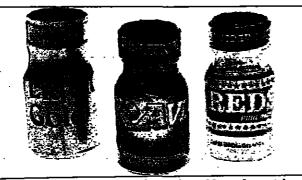
Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

The widely available aphrodisiac drug known as poppers faces a nationwide ban following a successful court case and new clampdown by officials. Shopowners can now be prosecuted for selling poppers

- which are particularly popular with gay men - and the Department of Health is considering tightening the re-strictions on their availability. This follows a campaign by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) which argues that

the chemical in poppers can kill and may be linked to a type of cancer that people with HIV sometimes develop. The drug, which costs about f4 for a small rottle contains the chemicals amyl, butyl or isobutyl nitrite. The side effects of inhaling it include a euphoric rush, enhanced orgasm,

and the relaxation of the bow-



Spoilt for choice: The drug is marketed in various guises

via mail order. In June, the RPS made an important, and at the time unnoticed, break-through when it

prosecuted a sex shop in Camden, north London, under the Medicines Act for selling a product that contains amyl nitrite, which should only be sold by a pharmacist because it is used as an antidote to cyanide poisoning and to treat

able from sex shops as well as angina. The retailer was fined

Although most poppers contain butyl and isobutyl nitrites, which are not banned under the Medicines Act, the RPS believes the ruling effectively means that all poppers are outlawed. Since then the society has been working with police forces and local authorities throughout Britain, including London,

attempt to stamp out the sale of poppers.

They have visited a number

were published, compared to

Book prices have risen from

of sex shops and threatened to prosecute them if they continue to sell the drug.
Steve Lutener, the head of the Inspectorate and Enforce-ment Division of the RPS.

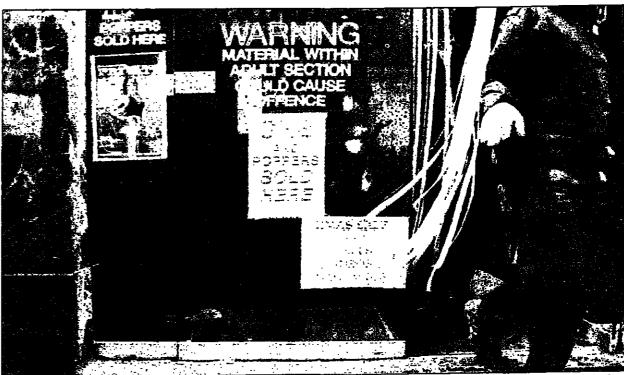
said: "The prosecution is an important test case. We are now trying to educate people about the dangers and are dealing with complaints from the public.

We have been visiting and sending letters to shops saying if they don't stop selling poppers e will take them to court."

He said that a least one

person had died from the effects of the chemicals, which prevented the blood from carrying

And he added that poppers may also be linked to the development of one of the early stages of full-blown Aids, the skin cancer Kaposi's sarcoma. Blackpool and Edinburgh, in an As well as gay men, the drug is



Duff trade: Shops that sell poppers are being warned that they face prosecution

also taken by teenagers. A survey of 752 pupils at schools in 1992 in Greater Manchester and Merseyside found that 22 per cent had taken poppers by the

Meanwhile, the Medicines Control Agency, a Department of Health enforcement team, is investigating the manufacture

and importation of the drug.

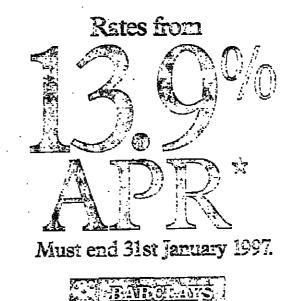
A Department of Health forcement team is very small

the law more stringently. "One of the reasons that shops still sell it is that our en-

spokeswoman said: "We are and often if supplies are seized looking at how we can enforce they are replaced in a few

She added that the agency only acted in response to complaints from the public.





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# Labour at odds over power to make policy.

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Labour front bench spokesmen last night said there would be a return to the "turmoil of the 1980s" if the Labour leadership endorsed reforms which could in effect abolish constituency parties and cut the par-

Centre-left Tribunite MPs

reduce the number of seats for Tony Blair's key Cabinet ministers on the party's ruling ex-ecutive, if Labour won office, and replace them with more grass roots supporters, including council leaders.

One Labour left-wing source said they have the backing of John Prescott, the deputy leader, and Robin Cook, and they would fight the proposals

put forward by the right-wing Labour Co-ordinating Committee for a review of the party machinery in government under Tom Sawyer, the general secretary of the party.

The source said the LCC's plans disclosed yesterday in The Independent were "highly cen-tralised and élitist". "What the inside-Left is arguing for, which is completely different to the LCC, is that there should be a

the leadership and its grass roots supporters. There should be the turmoil of the 1980s. What participatory democracy within the party rather than plebiscite with the leadership where individual party members can be "the source added. "The LCC positively involved." agenda whereby local parties are

effectively abolished would mean local party members would become appendages of the national leadership. "That cannot work and would lead to the same prob-

Derek Fatchett and Peter Hain, two Labour front bench spokesmen, will publish alternative plans under the left-

will propose keeping union involvement at all levels of the

forum. The left wing want to we need is a relationship of trust give more influence to the policy forums, which already exist. to deliver policy changes.

Under the LCC plans, which have the ear of the leadership. the conference would become a "public relations rally", said the source. The Tribunite document, A Stakeholder Party, will

party, and keeping the party reformed, to allow the first two days to be devoted to policy forums.

Constituencies would still send delegates to the conference, and they would retain voting powers. The NEC would remain the policy-making body between conferences, with a final decision over the manifesto, but the left want to reduce the number of seats for sitting members of the Cabinet on the NEC.

the NEC should no longer make policy. Unions and other affiliated groups would lose their di-rect links in the constituencies. General management committees, which at present send resolutions and delegates to the annual conference, would be replaced by a small executive, and grass roots decisions would be taken by one-member-onevote ballots.

# River slowly winds its way back to life

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

Richard Morris is hoping for a re-run of the fabled winter of 1947, though it is not so much the several feet of snow he wants as the floods that would inevitably follow.

The melt water would be the ideal natural ally in the restoration of a 1.5-mile stretch of the River Cole. a tributary of the Thames on the Oxfordshire-Wiltshire border.

Transformation of the river, on the National Trust's Coleshill estate, is already well underway. It is barely recognisable from the "dreary trickle" in the bottom of a drainage ditch familiar to Mr Morris, the estate land

At a cost of £250,000, shared by the European Union and the Environment Agency, the Cole has been re-engineered, introducing meanders and loops, shallows, undercut banks and gravel riffles. The aim is to restore the river to a natural winding course destroyed by canalisation in the 1970s.

Flooding will be allowed on adjacent fields to provide the wet ground necessary for feeding waders such as curlew and redshank. A five-acre relic meadow where knapweed and purple-flowered snake's head fritillary still grow will be extended over 20

acres of former arable land. Elsewhere on the 100 acres of



cut later in the summer to allow birds to nest successfully.

"It's been a long haul since the planning stage but now it is starting to look superb." Mr Morris said. "The meanders are back in the rivflood plain, silage fields will be man- er, young willows and water plants the current. And you can hear the

seen the first snipe for a long time than it sulking in the bottom of a and there seem to be more king-

fishers. People who walk here in the A further £100,000, from the spring will see the last scars of the same sources, will go towards an extensive scientific monitoring proconstruction, but they will also see date and chub holding themselves in gramme by Pond Action of Oxford

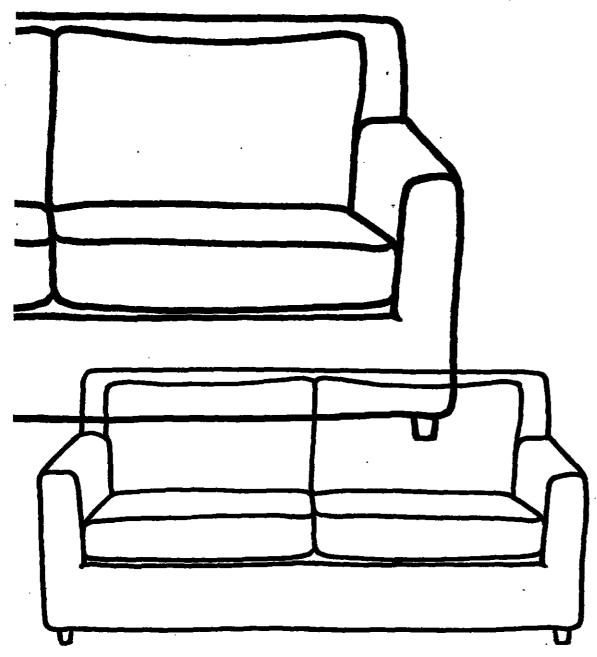
covered by the River Restoration Project. English Nature and the Countryside Commission are among the partners. The other scheme is an urban site on the River Skerue,

near Darlington. Ninety-five per cent of the coun-

wildlife and vegetation altered by drainage, agriculture and the taming hand of man. The Cole is known as a "flashy" river because of the sudden rushes of rainwater off the tarmac and concrete of the Swindon

toring will demonstrate that rivers and their settings can be restored and plants and wildlife re-established. It will be decades before the hay meadows are back to their full flower-rich glory but it may not be long before the otter is back beneath the willows

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# Ireland jails farmers using illegal growth promoters

Alan Murdoch

Rogue Irish farmers who go for a quick buck by feeding illegal growth promoters to cattle are being hammered with jail terms under a tough drive by Dublin to protect lucrative beef exports hard hit by BSE scares.

Four farmers and a vet are facing jail and more than 100 other cases are due before the courts in the crackdown. One judge told one farmer he was "worse than a terrorist" while another likened a vet who admitted keeping illegal growth

promoters to a drug dealer. More cases are under inves-tigation by teams of Department of Agriculture inspectors as Ireland seeks to defend its image as a producer of quality,

The prosecutions, delayed temporarily by a legal challenge brought by a meat company executive, are coming before courts across the country. Besides those jailed, others have received heavy fines.

Clenbuterol has been used for years by farmers in feed-stuffs, often diluted in milk powder, to achieve higher earnings by raising the proportion of lean meat to fat in beef cattle. First developed as a remedy

for respiratory problems in horses, the drug can induce fatal heart attacks in humans if inhaled in concentrated form.

The harsh penalties appear to be working as a deterrent. Investigators say detected abuse on Ireland's 170,000 farms has fallen amid the publicity about recent court verdicts. Farmers caught using illegal drugs are

also having EU bovine headage payments blocked. The tough measures are be-

ing applied as Ireland seeks to

recover from the damage to its huge meat trade inflicted by consumer alarm over the BSE. Ireland exports 87 per cent of its IR£1.7bn beef output and is more dependent on the sector than any other European Union state. Dublin already faces a big bill for the border policing op-

eration to prevent BSE-infected animals crossing the border from Northern Ireland. Under Operation Matador" hundreds of extra gardai are operating border check-points to block il-

legal cattle movements. Although infection levels are tiny by British standards, the 66 BSE cases detected this year in the Irish Republic compare with only 16 in 1995.

Several farmers in the southern Munster region are being investigated amid suspicion that they deliberately introduced BSE-infected animals in order to claim market-value com-

Mide League

pensation for their entire herds. To restore consumer confidence, Dublin has introduced a computerised cattle-tracing system which registers the movement of every beef animal in the

7-million-strong national herd. This and re-introduction of EU intervention purchasing to assist farmers while demand for beef declines will cost Dublin an extra £80m next year, according

to official estimates. A Food Safety Board with legal powers was recently created by the Department of Health, while Agriculture minister Ivan Yates has allocated IR£5m for research into BSE.

# Biographer to reveal secrets of West brother's role in killings

to be published about the secret life of John West, the "gentle giant" brother of the serial killer Fred West, it emerged yester-

They will be in a new final chapter of An Evil Love, Geoffrey Wansell's official biography of Fred West, a self-confessed murderer, which will be pub-

lished in paperback in the spring. John West, a retired dustman, hanged himself in the garage of vember, the day before the jury at Bristol Crown Court was to be sent out to consider allegations that he raped his niece Anne Marie West about 300 times over several years at the family's Gloucester home.

It was a suicide which mirrored that of his brother. Fred West hanged himself in his remand cell at Birmingham Prison on New Year's Day 1995. while awaiting trial on 12 charges of murder.

The new chapter in the paperback edition of the Fred West biography will disclose new details of the brothers'





first wife. Rena Costello, who killed his lover and family nanrelationship with Fred's wife, the iailed serial killer Rosemary ny Ann McFall, 18, and that for West. Mr Wansell has already some years his second wife, said in the hardback edition of Rosemary - now serving life for Fred West's life how the builder 10 murders - and his brother claimed that John was involved had had a sexual relationship. 'a lot" in the kidnappings and killings which took place at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester.

At his trial John West denied a specimen rape charge involving Anne Marie West, and another single rape charge and how much of a partnership Fred West also claimed that it was his brother John and his concerning a girl who cannot he

cmerged during the trial that John West had admitted having had sex with Rosemary West on

several occasions Mr Wansell was commissioned to write the biography of Fred West for the Official Solicitor. The bulk of the royalties will go to Fred West's estate for the benefit of the younger chil-

dren of his family.
The author was given unrecedented access to personal belongings, documentary and video material concerning the prosecution of Fred West. He ilso attended John West's rape trial. But the process prevent-ed him from making disclosures concerning John West while

he was unconvicted and alive. Mr Wansell yesterday declined to give details of his revelations concerning John West in the final 12,000-word chapter of the revised paperback biography. But he disclosed: "I shall he revealing the extent that John West knew about his brother's activities over the past years

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# How the best of British youth could change the face of our public

Many schools, hospitals and communities could be transformed this year by a rapid expansion in the numbers of young people voluntarily giving their time to help them. The Conservatives have

pledged that by the end of 1997, everyone between the ucation course next September. ages of 15 and 25 who wants to volunteer should be able to. Last month, the Government gave £3m to fund local "volunteer facilitators".

Even if they lose the election, the initiative will continue as Labour has announced plans to have 100,000 young people involved in "citizens" service" by the millennium. The Liberal Democrats gave their backing to the idea some time ago.

Elisabeth Hoodless, executive director of the charity Community Service Volunteers, said yesterday that volunteering was

an idea whose time has come. To show how the politicians' pledges can be put into practice, the charity has just completed the first 12 months of pilot

In Cardiff, Sunderland and the London borough of acy levels rising in her classroom Southwark, around 150 young as the children received more people have been helping in schools, restoring gardens and Himdocha teaches one child calming waiting-room nerves in hospitals.

Mrs Hoodless said: "What has been remarkable in the projects is the joy with which professionals have welcomed young people to help raise reading levels, or calm waiting areas in hospitals or care for people with learning difficulties."

A problem with volunteers in the past was a reputation for unreliability, but good organisation had overcome that. "I think we've made a real break-

through," she said. At Keyworth primary school in Southwark, south London, Juliana Braithwaite applied mascara to the eyes of Emily

Tume, 10, as her classmates

babbled excitedly, preparing to perform the musical Grease.

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Ms Braithwaite, 25, has just been taken on to work 10 hours a week at the school after proving a dedicated volunteer with the Southwark pilot project. She is still giving her own time in the afternoons while she waits to take a bachelor of ed-

"I've always been interested in teaching and thought it would be a good idea to get to know a bit more about the needs of young children. It's helped me to decide if this is the sort of career I really want to go into."

She believed many youn people could benefit, but not if the idea becomes just another government scheme. "This should be seen as a valuable thing," she said.

Christina Albrecht, the head teacher, agreed. "It makes tons of difference to the school. It enables all the extra bits to happen. We managed before but we couldn't do as much. We've had more trips in this last term than in all the 10 years I've

been head." One of the teachers, Andrea Inniss, said she could see literwho had never used the past tense because it was not used at home. He is beginning to now. "A volunteer can make gentle reminders in a way that as a teacher with 30 children you cannot," she said.

Similar success stories are claimed for the projects in Cardiff and Sunderland which were developed to show how citizen's service could be organised, ensuring a prototype is in place for expansion, whoever wins the election.

Elisabeth Hoodless said: What we're talking about is young people as a matter of choice giving a period of service to the communities they live in which is good for them and good for the community."

# Saudi lawyer in death penalty plea to family

Michael Streeter

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The Saudi lawyer representing the two British nurses charged with murdering a colleague is to make a public appeal to the dead woman's family not to press for the death penalty if they are convicted of murder. Salah Hejailan said that if Yvonne Gilford's relatives

could escape with three or four years' jail - possibly suspended. Mr Hejailan, who will visit Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan in jail for the first time on Saturday, said that if the victim's family declared they did not want the ultimate sanction this would rule out capital

punishment. Speaking from the Saudi capital Riyadh, he told The Independent: Everything depends on the family of the dead woman. The judge would not even consider capital punishment unless it was asked for by

He would be seeking the as-surance from the Gilford family in writing, he said, which could mean the entire case being dealt with inside a few

It would be "shocking", and not a little ironic, said Mr Hejailan, for a Western family to urge the death penalty at a time of unbalanced criticism of the

di insistence on taking into account a victim's views was a positive factor, he said.

The dead woman's brother Frank Gilford, speaking from his home in Sydney, Australia, hinted at the weekend that the family might not ask for exe-cution for her alleged killers. Mr Hejailan added he was

agreed then the accused pair aware of reports that at least one of the two accused, Ms Parry, 41, from the Midlands, had withdrawn an alleged confession, but he said he was unable to comment in detail on the strength of their defence until he met them. Saudi newspapers have quot

ed police sources as saying the three women, who worked together at the King Fahd Military Medical Complex in Dhahran, had rowed before the killing, with the two Britons allegedly taunting the 55-yearold Australian over her age. The same sources claim that

the two women were caught after police discovered that money was going missing from the dead woman's bank account and followed them to a cash dispensing machine.

The women were visited on Monday by the British consul, Tim Lamb, who said they were in "good health" but naturally very concerned about the murder charges.





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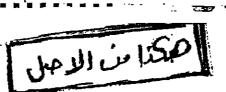
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is fitted with a hidden camera, comb, mirror and make-up set.

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neras hidden in a vanity case (right) and in binoculars will be auctioned by Christie's on 17 January Photographs: Adrian Dennis

Private passion saves secret history of the spy camera

Arts Correspondent

When James Bond casually produces an item from his mind-boggling array of gadgets, the inevitable assumption is that they owe more to the future than the past.

But an unusual auction sale later this month reveals that spy cameras, at least, have been around for more than a century and come in an extraordinary variety of secret guises.

The examples to go on sale at Christie's, South Kensington, in west London, were gathered by an anonymous French collector, whose quirk was to find as many examples as possible, dating from the Victorians, of the trend for concealed cameras.

These were designed for both men and women - erring husbands may well have been at the wrong end of their concealed lenses - and now command prices up to tens of thousands

dummy magazine and is estiera gun. Many of these models, which started in the 1850s, were mated at £400 to £600. If a gun seems a little crude, aspiring

unconvincing in terms of dis-guise - Christie's is selling an Erac gun camera consisting merely of a grip without the barrel - but they did have the advantage of reducing blurring. One of the better varieties is included in the sale on 17 Jan-

came to marketing his designs. His Steineck ABC – estimated at up to £1,200 with its origuary: the Japanese Toko Ko-

camera. Christie's is offering the Steineck ABC made in 1948 by Dr R Steiner, a prolific German inventor who was a notoriously bad businessman when it

lt takes snaps through a small opening under the carry-strap. Other gadgets include the notebook camera complete with pen (up to £140), the cigarette box camera (four "brands" including Marlboro; up to £140), or the lighter camera, with its spies should consider the watch Zippo-style case (up to £150).

Last but not least is Bloch's remarkably unconvincing 1890 photo-cravat camera, the size of a spectacle case. Designed to fit inside a cravat with its lens poking from the position usually taken by the pin, this will command the highest price of all, gaku, which offers a sight and inal box - is considered one of likely to be as much as £18,000.

# Labour tables

**Education Correspondent** 

National primary school league tables could be scrapped in favour of local tables under a Labour government.

The shadow Education Secretary. David Blunkett, said of pupils on entry at five.

'yesterday that a final decision Labour have said it would revesterday that a final decision would be made after the first performance tables for 11-yearolds are published in March. But he is understood to be convinced parents would be better served by tables giving information on schools in their local area than

by a mass of national data. The first tables will provide information on the curriculum test results of more than 14,000 primary and middle schools in

England.
The Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, yesterday claimed Labour had "let the cat out of the bag" over its views on schools' accountability. The party had made it clear it would deny parents wider information on primary school performance.

Mr Blunkett said Labour. would review the Government's tables "to see whether they are the most efficient and helpful parents and lifting standards in primary schools".

He went on: "We would need to be persuaded by parents that information on how other schools many miles away are doing would be of value to them or that the £2m it would cost could not be better spent helping their school in a more direct way." He was referring to the fl.Sm estimated cost of producing the tables and Labour would want to examine whether this was a worthwhile use of re-

data on schools in their areas,

H.

Ciaran Carson

allowing parents to compare performances locally and against a national average.

Mr Blunkett also wants authorities to provide information for parents on how schools add value, comparing performance at the age of 11 with assessment

tain secondary school league ta bles, introduced six years ago. though it wants more valueadded information as well as public examination results. Mr Blunkett's stance opens

a clear policy rift with the Government, which says national comparisons are as important at primary as at secondary school level, and the key to raising standards.

The Government's primary tables will show the proportion of pupils in each school in England who reach national target standards in English, maths and science. They include teacher assessments of pupils as well as the results of tests taken by 600,000 11-year-olds last May.

Mrs Shephard provoked a boycott of the tests for 11-yearolds by teaching unions last year when she went back on a promise to delay publication of results until the tests had "bedded down". The move was widely seen as a concession to her party's right wing. She justified her U-turn by pointing to the poor results achieved in tests the previous year, when more than half of 11-year-olds failed to reach expected standards in

maths and English. The general election could disrupt preparations for publication which are already well under way. In the event of a poll before March, the Cabinet Secretary. Sir Robin Butler, and the education permanent secretary, Michael Bichard, would

decide whether civil servants

would stop work on the tables.

As an alternative to national tables Labour would require education authorities to compile

the sausage rolls, for reasons

They gave the prisoners no reasons.

It's not the quality We're giving off about. Just that it seems they're

Give or take an inch?

words here, since their spokesman is alleged

in H-Block auch or hauch?

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non-smoker. to tell you how.

### His "Bellast" accent wasn't West enough. Is the H Does it matter? What we have we hold? Our day will come?

Well, give an inch and someone takes an effing mile. Everything is in the ways them. Like, the prison that we call Long Kesh is to the Powers-that-Be The Maze.

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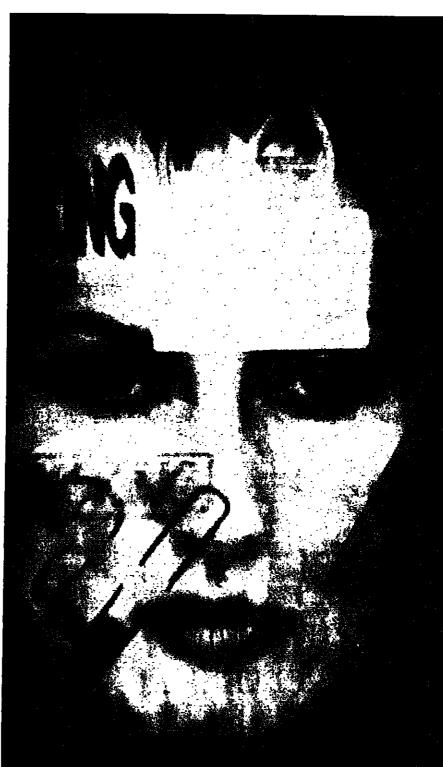
An actor spoke for him in almost-perfect lip-synch:

getting smaller. We're talking quantity.

The prisoners complained. We cannot reproduce his actual

To be a sub-commander of a movement deemed to be illegal.

Today's selection from the TS Eliot Prize shortlist forms part of Ciaran Carson's "Letters of the Alphabet" sequence, in his book Opera et Celera (Bloodaxe). Carson, who is Literature and Traditional Arts Officer with the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, won the Prize in 1993 for his collection Fust



from a cigarette, but higher than the point where physical cravings are too much to bear. Furthermore, unlike some patches, ours last a full 24 hours.

So they help beat that desperate desire for the first smoke of the day.

Once you've finished the small



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# Chirac honours Johnny and forgives France

Mary Dejevsky

President Jacques Chirac may have no pressing need to court the voters - parliamentary elections are more than a year away and his own job is safe for five years - but the message of his New Year address to the nation and his New Year's honours list could have come from the same school of seasonal PR as John Major's. Tell the punters what they want to hear, the advice seems to have been, and give them plenty of what we know they like.

The result in Mr Chirac's case was some extravagant stroking of the Frenchman's delicate ego and a congregation of new and promoted members of the Legion D'Honneur littered with household names of a certain age.

Heading yesterday's news was the latest honour for Johnny Hallyday, the superannuated French-language rock star (almost the only one). There, too, was Sacha Distel (remember him?), the gracefullygrowing-old balladist of yesteryear, and the veteran fashion designer Pierre Cardin

one of those whose couture house has so far escaped the clutches of the enfants terribles from Loudon.

There was a sprinkling of achieving women - France's first woman in space, Claudie André-Deshays, and the recently appointed female head of France's equivalent of the CID. Martine Monteil, among them - but there were also yards of establishment names, headed by one familiar from the distant past, the former prime minister, Maurice Couve de Murville.

For his 11-minute address on New Year's eve Mr Chirac was looking, somehow, especially Gallic. He was suddenly one of "us", the French, rather than one of "them", those light-suited "Anglo-Saxons" whose easy. laid-back ways he often imitates on television.

The tricolour returned to the prominence of his first presidential broadcast, almost edging out the European flag, and he uttered the words "France" or "French" 16 times. Europe, which had a starring role in his previous appearance three weeks ago, scored a mere three

was Mr Chirac's reassessment of his compatriots. Three weeks ago, in what was his first presidential broadcast for six months, he had described them as "conservatives", stubboruly resistant to any sort of change and effectively blamed them for the parlous state of the coun-

try. He had also cast aspersions

on much of government policy.

After a storm of criticism from the pundits about his attitude - "as though he was a spectator of his own government' said one -Mr Chirac had decided that his fellow-countrymen were doing pretty well. "France is changing, France is modernising itself, the French are mobilising, he insisted, "Beyond the conservatism ... that exists here and there, I see evidence of dynamism and vitality."

He had even decided that

they were all in this together. "advancing together on the path of our joint ambitions". One of France's senior political commentators described the message as "basically a correction of his last broadcast". The French and their president, it seems, go into 1997 all square.



Taking the plunge: Giuseppe Palmulli keeping up a 50-year tradition by diving into the Tiber River in Rome yesterday. He and two others jumped off the Cavour Bridge after first sprinkling wine into the river

Photograph: Paolo Cocco/Reuters

# America acts to to safeguard its national parks

**David Usborne** 

The new year is promising to bring some respite to America's chronically overused national park system with sharp increases in visitor entrance fees and the promise of other measures to curb human intrusion - particularly of the mechanised kind in cars and aircraft.

Bruce Babbitt, the US Secthe start of 1997 by announcing stricter limits on aircraft overflying the Grand Canyon in Arizona. Under the new rules. aeroplane and helicopter tours will be outlawed in 80 per cent of the airspace over the canyon, compared with 40 per cent previously. In the summer months, all flying will be barred before 8 am and after 6 pm. The new controls are de-

signed, however, as only the first phase in a longer-term plan to reverse the encroachments of all private vehicles in the canyon and other popular parks like Yellowstone and Yosemite. At the canyon, for example, proposals already approved will eventually force visitors to leave their cars outside the park and take shuttle buses to points inside.

"At peak periods of summer overflights, the south rim of the Grand Canyon is noisier than Times Square on New Year's Eve," Mr Babbitt said as he announced the flight limits. Un-

These are the truly magical hours in the Grand Canyon".

The entire park system, meanwhile, should be considerably fortified by the increase in entrance fees approved by the US Congress last year. Due to take effect this month, the changes will mean for instance a doubling from \$10 to \$20 of the entrance charge for one car into the canyon this summer.

cially benefit the largest parks which have been trying to reconcile falling federal contributions with rapidly rising visitor volumes. Yellowstone drew international attention to the issue last summer when it closed down some of its areas to tourists, pleading penury.

By addressing motorised traffic, meanwhile, the government is getting into the central dilemma of the park system's management: at what point does the need to protect America's wonders become more important than the principle of keeping them accessible to all?

The plan gradually to expel private cars from the Grand Canyon will be put into motion this year and phased in over 15 years. If all goes well, from 2012 no more will be allowed entry.

"In some ways this says 'no more, we are not going to remain slaves to the automobile'. as we have been," Ron Arnberger, the Superintendent of derlining the dawn and dusk the Grand Canyon, said.

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## Pope puts faith in millennium

Andrew Gumbel Rome

The Pope inaugurated the new year yesterday with a message of forgiveness and peace, urging the world to put past conflicts behind it and look forward instead to the jubilee celebrations that the Catholic Church

is organising for the millennium. John Paul's traditional greeting, delivered from the balcony of his private apartments in the Vatican, reflected many of his own personal concerns, as he looks back on a long life and searches for the physical strength to survive until 2000.

"May the Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, encourage us to begin this new year with gestures of love and, if necessary, reconciliation, to help build a better world marked by justice and peace," the Pope said. Earlier, while presiding over mass in St Peter's, he made mention of many of the world's persistent trouble spots, from the Middle East to Central Africa.

The 76-year-old pontiff looked in reasonable physical shape following his bout of abdominal surgery in October. He period, skipping the main mass abdominal problems.

on 25 December for the first

time in his 19-year reign. He has a typically busy sched-ule ahead of him in the next 12 months, including trips to the Czech Republic, France, Brazil and possibly Cuba. His recent messages make it clear that he is looking further ahead, to the task he sees as his historical destiny, guiding the Church through 2000.

The Pope sees the millennium as an opportunity to reevangelise the world and has urged the opening of purses for a programme of church-build-

ing, particularly in Rome.
First indications suggest that the jubilee celebrations in Rome will be much more about cashing in on tourism and the construction industry than any spiritual revival. The Pope, however, remains unbowed. In a New Year's Eve service in the Roman Jesuit church of Sant Tgnazio, the Pope said he had "special reason" to give thanks for the past year and the preparations under way for 2000.

The big question is whether he can survive. This most resolute and physically resilient of popes has been diagnosed with has deliberately taken it rela- a form of Parkinson's disease tively easy over the Christmas and has a history of severe

THE INDEPENDENT • THURSDAY 2 JANUARY 1997

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GRAPH PERSON

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PACE PRATURE

Inside the dark Japanese

their rebel captors held

Tuesday's release of the

Honduran ambassador and

still trapped inside the com-

pound. Red Cross workers

brought the hostages four

'Camp guard'

fires on police

A man who was accused of being a Nazi death camp guard fired at reporters and

Department had filed papers

Mr Kolnhofer waved a gun

at reporters, yelling at them

to leave. When police were

called to the scene, he fired

once in the leg and taken to

shots and police returned

fire. He was shot at least

the University of Kansas

Medical Center.

AP - Kansas City

seeking to strip Michael Kolnhofer, 79, of his

alleging he concealed his

concentration camp ties

when he applied for

citizenship in 1952.

ambassador's residence in

Lima, Peru, 81 hostages and

candles during a New Year's Eve mass yesterday, praying for a peaceful end to the two-

### Iran orders out Peru hostages 1 million pray for a foreign workers peaceful end

Iran has ordered employers to fire an estimated one million foreign workers, mostly Afghan refugees, by Saturday, saying most of them were illegal aliens. A Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs official, quoted week-long standoff. Despite by the daily Hamshahri, said employers of foreign workers must replace them the Argentine consul, 81 of the initial 500 hostages were with Iranian employees by 4

Iran, which suffers from an official unemployment rate of nearly 11 per cent, is home to boxes of clean clothes and a two million refugees – 1.4 holiday meal of sushi, fruit million from Afghanistan and and fruit juice. AP – Lima 600,000 from Iraq. This makes the country of more than 60 million people the world's most important host country, according to the United Nations refugee agency. *Reuter – Tehran* 

# Bombs dropped police outside his home before he was shot in the leg by police. The US Justice

An aeroplane dropped several bombs on Kabul last night in the sixth such air raid naturalised US citizenship, in five days. The night sky was lit up with tracer fire as anti-aircraft gunners of the islamic Taliban, who took the Afghan capital in September, tried to bring the

attacking aircraft down. There has been a spate of air-raids since Saturday when opposition planes launched four attacks in one day. The air raids began the day after opposition forces suffered a serious defeat at the hands of the Taliban. Reuter - Kabul

Zaire's President, Mobutu Sese Seko, called in a New

restoration of peace in his

scheduled. In his traditional

by state television from his

jungle palace in Gbadolite,

entire population to pull

much-delayed democratic

demand democracy in

Serbia, blowing whistles and

ringing alarm clocks in an

ear-splitting rebuff to President Slobodan Milose-

vic. The autocratic Socialist

(SPS) leader only hours be-

fore had ignored six straight

weeks of opposition street

transition. Reuter - Kinshasa

sprawling and anarchic

take place this year as

Year message for the

### Australia's Laos Mobutu orders bomb plan togetherness

Australia considered joining the United States in covert bombing raids in Laos during the Vietnam War, but decided against it because it feared it could not keep it nation to enable elections to secret, according to 1966 Australian Cabinet documents. The documents, released by the Australian end of year speech broadcast Archives under a 30-year secrecy rule, said the then Australian government head-ed by Harold Holt was under Mobutu yesterday urged the together to complete Zaire's pressure from the United States to join the secret air war over neutral Laos. Reuter

### Serbs rally for Snacktime democracy doll warning At least a quarter of a million people staged a huge New Year rally in Belgrade to

Each Cabbage Patch Snacktime Kids doll sold in future will have a label warning parents that its munching mouth can catch a child's hair or fingers, US federal officials and the toy maker Mattel Inc said on AP - Washington

### protests against electoral fraud in his New Year's mes-Skydivers sage to federal Serbian-led Yugoslavia, saying 1996 had survive fall been a very good year.

Two Australian skydivers survived a 500-metre fall to the ground after they collided in mid-air. Hundreds of horrified spectators at the National Skydiving Championships at Corowa watched as the two skydivers parachutes became entangled and they crashed into a paddock.

Geoff Divco was taken to hospital with a fractured skull, a collapsed lung and broken ribs. His jumping partner, Jerome Rich, escaped with minor bruises.

Competitors in the second annual Great Wall races at Badaling, near Peking, battling strong head winds and a temperature of minus 25C yesterday. About 2,000 people had signed up for races over various distances, but most were kept away by the bad weather. The oldest of those who ran was 82 and the youngest was 5 Photograph: AP

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# TV reinforces Jiang's claim to succeed Deng

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Chinese state television last night broadcast the first of a 12-part series on Deng Xiaoping amid a flurry of rumours about the health of the ailing 92-year-old patriarch. The series is designed to usher in 1997 as one of the most "significant" in Chinese history, with first the return of Hong Kong on 1 July and then the full Communist Party Congress in the autumn.

Mr Deng is the architect of China's reform and opening policies which have transformed the country since 1979, and the mastermind of the negotiations with Britain for the return of Hong Kong. The first programme introduced the great man's life story with choirs singing, white doves flying, and a montage of Mr Deng's face superimposed on a panorama of Tiananmen Square with time-delay film of orange clouds racing towards the camera.

It covered the first two decades of Mr Deng's life, starting with a guided tour of the restored family home in Sichuan province. No expense was spared, including sending a film crew to France to visit the various factories and towns where Mr Deng worked as a student after arriving in Marseille in 1920. As a result of his experiences in a Toulouse steel factory, the teenager "discovered how capitalists exploited the workers", the programme said. Before long he had become



Deng Xiaoping: "Intensive care"

"Communist believer". As well as reinforcing the official Deng myth, the series will seek to reaffirm the position of President Jiang Zemin as the in-heritor of his mantle. Early in the first episode, in a filmed interview Mr Jiang gave in 1995, he lauded Mr Deng's role in China's 20th century history. With party in-fighting subdued while Mr Deng is still alive, it is in his interests that the old man lives until the party congress, when the President aims to cement his position as leader

for allegedly promoting "Chinese chauvinism". As is

usual in these cases, Mr Tang is

accused of libelling members of

PAP have never lost a libel case.

The government and the

the ruling party.

for the post-Deng era. Mr Deng has not been seen in public for more than three years. The state of his health is secret, but he has so far defied repeated rumours that he was at death's door. In recent days, however, such rumours have reemerged. The South China Morning Post in Hong Kong yesterday said that on Monday night nurses had been unable to wake him for supper. He recovered consciousness later

that night and was put under intensive care in his Peking house, which is fitted out like a hospital. The newspaper quoted a source close to the family as saying since early 1996 Mr Deng had experienced a "spell of unconsciousness" about once a week. The source said he had not been admitted to hospital. Earlier this week, Sing Tao

Daily in Hong Kong quoted a Peking source as saying Mr Deng's health had deteriorated and he was sent to a military hospital last week. The Apple Daily, quoting Taiwan cable television, said Mr Deng's health had worsened and he had been sent to hospital. According to Reuters, no unusual movements had been noticed near the 301 hospital where Mr Deng is usually treated. Analysts said the govern-

ment would not have scheduled the television series if it thought Mr Deng, who is believed to have Parkinson's Disease and other ailments, might not make it to the last episode. The introduction to the tele

vision series promised "the real

story" of Deng Xiaoping, which will test China's view of history. His early life is basically uncontroversial, but propaganda departments will have had a harder time in deciding how to portray his zealous role in the 1957 anti-rightist movement, when tens of thousands were persecuted. The treatment of China's great famine and the brutal Cultural Revolution when Mr Deng was purged will also attract scrutiny.

### Forty die in bus crash

At least 40 people died and dozens were injured in a head-on collision between two buses in southern Mozambique, state radio reported. The vehicles, one a minibus, collided on Tuesday on the country's main northsouth highway, about 50 miles north of Maputo.

# Who dares loses in Singapore

the hands of the ruling party. Stephen Vines reports

Anyone crazy enough or brave enough to take on Singapore's ruling People's Action Party (PAP) in today's election can expect to have their past life minutely scrutinised for signs of misdemeanours and can be sure to face a torrent of vilification - that is if they are very lucky. Those who are not so fortunate can face loss of employment, disintegration of their marriages and bankruptcy through seemingly endless legal actions.

Remarkably, 39 people have braved the onslaught to run as opposition candidates. As one Western diplomat observed, the government makes it clear to people that the cost of political participation outside the PAP is too high." The choice is simple, he says. "If you stay non-

announced that eight of its members, including the Prime cy was abolished and he has only more may be pending. Despite just been able to stand again for Minister, would be taking legal parliament after serving a disaction against Tang Liang Hong, an opposition candidate qualification period. A further who has been elevated as the deseries of legal actions may well mon of the election campaign bankrupt him again.

The relentless harrying of the opposition kills two birds with one stone, says Chee Soon Juan, another opposition leader. It deals a blow to the target and sends a warning to anyone who might be thinking

The minimum cost of each case of joining the opposition. is about £130,000. It is therefore Dr Chee knows what he is talking about. In 1992 he joined quite likely that these proan opposition party. Three months later he was fired from his university teaching post on accusations of having sent an unauthorised copy of his wife's dissertation to the US. He was

later accused of distorting taxi fares claims of a few cents. Then came the legal actions

this he, too, managed to win a seat in parliament but even there found himself on the receiving end of another onslaught. A typing error in a presentation he made about health-care costs resulted in accusations of perjury, misconduct and giving false information to parliament. The Parliamentary Privileges Committee found him guilty on all counts and issued a 196-page document to back up its findings.

When Dr Chee and three colleagues appeared before the committee to defend themselves they got into hot water again and were fined some £3,500 each for contempt, meaning they had asked questions or refused to answer questions which the PAP-controlled committee deemed to be hold-

Why does Dr Chee bother Election's would-be opposition candidates face ruin at when he could have enjoyed a quiet and relatively prosperous life as an academic? "If you keep pushing a person you get his back up against the wall," he says, "There is no choice but to fight back." He believes the current way of conducting politics cannot go on for ever. "You've got to keep the candle lit for that time when it can burn bright.

Voters who refuse to back the PAP can expect little mercy either. On Tuesday the PAP announced that it would scrutinise the election results precinct by precinct to see which voted for the opposition. Areas with high dissenting votes would find their housing services upgraded last.

This threat refines an earlier pledge to discriminate against whole constituencies that fail to elect PAP members. If, in the face of this onslaught, the opposition manages to improve on its 1991 performance, when it secured 39 per cent of the vote, the government may find that intimidation is not the best way to stay in power.



Pinner, Middlesex

ceedings will bankrupt Mr Tang. That in turn will make him ineligible to stand for parliament. The leader of Mr Tang's political you live very well here. This is a government used to virtually total control of parliament party, JB Jeyaretnam, has been and the media, and wants to down this route before, after he keep it that way, while also broke the PAP's unchallenged keeping the legal forms of a position in parliament by winning a sir le seat. He was then On the eve of polling the PAP hit with. al actions which led which forced him to sell his neu to give a postul autoress. Letters muy de étitlet foi tengin ana cianty. -- · | Cleveland ic accountability is

ing parliament in contempt.

Cambridgeshire

# Ten seconds that shook the Middle East







Arabs fear

Gunman aimed to sabotage handover

**Associated Press** and Reuter

Palestinians dived to the ground in panic and shouted when an Israeli soidier opened fire in all directions shooting at the vegetable market in the heart of Hebron. The off-duty soldier, who lives in a Jewish settlement near Jerusalem, emptied the clip of his M-16 automatic riffe into the crowded open-air market before other soldiers overpowered him.

ket on Martyrs Street, wounding men, women and a youth. witnesses and doctors said.

At first, panic and confusion gripped everyone - Arabs, soldiers and Jewish settlers. The Jews thought they were under attack and began firing around the market. Police and soldiers rushed to the scene from the nearby Jewish enclave of Avraham Avinu, and witnesses said at least one Palestinian was

wounded by them. However, as it dawned on the Israelis that they were not the target, soldiers crept towards the gunman. A few Palestinians also moved towards him in an attempt to bring him down.

Israeli lieutenant Avi Buskila got there first. "When he entered the area of the square and began shooting, I stood at my post and heard the shots. Within 10 seconds I pinned him to the ground and took his gun." Lt Buskila said.

Even while on the ground the gunman tried to load a second magazine into his rifle. Sol-

itary jeep. "It happened right in front of me," said stallholder Walid Kafisheh, 46. "I tried to stop him but the soldiers got to him first. Then soldiers and police came from everywhere

Abdel Karim Atrash, 16, was selling aubergines when he was hit by gunfire. "I turned and saw a soldier in uniform. I tried to run but felt a pain in my leg." Friedman fired between 10 and 15 rounds, witnesses said.

The director of Hebron's Alia Hospital initially said 11 hospital officials later said that five people were hit by bullets, and nine others were hurt in beatings by Israeli troops.

The 19-year-old off-duty soldier was from the Maaleh Adumim settlement near Jerusalem. He was drafted five months ago and served in a logistics unit in Israel. He was not assigned to duty in Hebron. A senior Israeli army commander said Friedman did guard duty on Tuesday night at his base near Jerusalem, and got on a bus to Hebron vesterday morning. The gunman wore a skullcap and a white fringed undershirt, both symbols of a religious Jew.

Later, Friedman was defiant. He said he acted to sabotage the handover to the PLO of the town that he said was bought for the Jews 4,000 years ago by the biblical Abraham. "Abraham bought the Cave of the Patriarchs for 400 shekels of silver. No one will return it," said Friedman, triumphantly waving his fist in the air.

The cave, which, is holy to



Israeli soldiers and medics treating one of the Palestinian victims of the marketplace shooting Photograph: Reuter

control along with all Jewish holy places after Israel withdraws from 80 per cent of Hebron. The cave is also a holy site to Muslims, who call it the Haram al-Ibrahimi. In February 1994, Baruch Goldstein, a Jew from the nearby Kiryat Arba settlement, massacred 29 Palestinians kneeling in prayer at al-

Ibrahimi mosque before survivors beat him to death. Friedman's defiance brought to mind another right-wing re-ligious Israeli, Yigal Amir, who murdered Prime Minister surrounding hills to prevent Yitzhak Rabin14 months ago to

hind him," Friedman said in remarks that echoed Amir. Yesterday, the army poured troops into Hebron and put armoured personnel carriers on reprisals. It also imposed a halt a land-for-peace deal with brief curfew. Youths burned

the streets quickly emptied. Hebron's Palestinian political leaders issued a statement after the shooting saying there could be no peace while the 400 settlers remained among the 100,000 Palestinians, "The only solution for Hebron is to evac-Arafat. "Bibi [Netanyahu] remains alone, without Jews be-briefly after the shooting but ment said. uate these fanatics." the state-

House summit, Israel and PLO

launch weeks of marathon talks

11 December: Guerrillas from

the Popular Front of the Lib-

eration of Palestine shoot dead

a 12-year-old Israeli boy and his

mother in a drive-by shooting

town of Ramallah. Five other

12 December: Israeli farmer shoots dead a Palestinian work-

on Hebron redeployment.

lationship with Israel.

Mr Emanuel remains for now a relatively unknown quantity. But as his fame spreads, the news will also reach the Arab world that the middle name of President Clinton's new cminence grise is Israel.

Rahm Israel Emanuel's father fought with the Israeli underground in the war for Israeli near the PLO-ruled West Bank nationhood. Mr Emanuel senior named his three sons after Israeli heroes who died in that war. The Emanuel family was brought up in Chicago but summer holidays were always spent in the Jewish homeland. Rahm Emanuel was born in the US but kept Israeli dual citizenship

Israeli hold on Clinton's new team

John Carlin Washington

High among President Bill Clinton's New Year resolutions will be to do all in his power to forge a lasting peace settle-ment between Israelis and Palestinians. However, two recent appointments he has made to top jobs in his administration have only made the

challenge more daunting. Madeleine Albright, the President's designated Secretary of State, and Rahm Emanuel. who replaces George Stephanopoulos as senior White House adviser, will only enthat America cannot be trusted to play honest broker in the

Middle Eastern conflict. Given the huge distrust that Israel's Prime Minister Benjamín Netanyahu generates among Arabs, America's mediating role as negotiations evolve beyond the Hebron deal towards "final status" talks will become more critical than ever.

President Clinton will be seeking to press home the ad-vantage by helping Israel rebuild bridges with its Arab neigh-bours, notably Egypt and Jor-dan. He would also like to add Syria to the peace equation Syria, as Israel's all-important security concerns cannot be met with Syrian co-operation

The prospects of Ms Albright faring any better than the outgoing Warren Christopher at persuading Syria to do business with Mr Netanyahu, are not good. It is not only a question of style, although temperamentally Ms Albright is to Mr Christopher as Lady Thatcher was to Sir Geoffrey Howe. More to the point, Ms Albright's record as US ambassador to the United Nations offered evidence once more of America's special re-

War he displayed his allegiance to the land of his father when he volunteered to serve in the Israeli army. He spent twoand-a-half weeks at a military base near the Lebanese border.

It was events at the Lebanese border eight months ago which revealed to Arab leaders the extent of Ms Albright's commitment to the Israeli cause. She argued vehemently against a UN decision to publish a human rights report heavily critical of the Israeli artillery bombard ment of Qana, in southern Lebanon, which killed more than 100 Palestinian refugees. Ms Albright said publication of the report would damage

Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in an interview in November that colleagues at the UN had warned him at the time that his decision to overrule Ms Albright's request not to publish the report would cost him his job as UN Secretary-General. In an article published in yes-terday's New York Times Mr Boutros-Ghali, who bade his final farewell to the UN yesterday, said Ms Albright was

Boutros-Ghali's decision to publish a report critical of Israel may have cost him his job

well aware of the difficulties she would encounter in persuading the Arab world of her "bona

Mr Boutros-Ghali was at a dinner two weeks ago attended by Ms Albright. It was a tense encounter, for only days earli-er she had succeeded in her crusade to dash his hopes of a second term as Secretary-General. "What went wrong?" he asked her. "Why this campaign against me for six months?"

According to Mr Boutros-Ghali, she she fobbed him off an "official interpretation" and then proceeded to ask him for help in the new challenges she would face after her promotion to Secretary of State.

She asked me to help her in relations with the Arabs," said Mr Boutros-Ghali, an Egyptian veteran of Middle Eastern diplomacy. "She made the point that she knew because she was against my re-election that the until he was 18. During the Gulf Arab world was not happy."

# The diary of violence in one long year

5 January: Yahya Ayyash, known as "The Engineer" and believed to be the mastermind of a wave of Islamic suicide bombings against Israel, is killed in the Gaza Strip when his cellular telephone blows up. The militant Islamic group Hamas vows to avenge his death, which it blames on Israel.

20 January: Palestinians hold first election for president and parliament to rule in the West deal with Israel. Yasser Arafat, PLO chief, elected president. 25 February: Two Hamas sui-

Israeli town of Ashkelon. Bombings said to be in revenge for the killing of Ayyash. March: Hamas suicide

bomber on a bus in Jerusalem kills 18. Israel declares all-out war against Hamas. 4 March: A Hamas suicide bomber kills 13 at a busy Tel

Aviv shopping mall. 23 March: Israel, rocked by the suicide bombings, puts off scheduled withdrawal from Hebron, the seventh and last West Bank town still occupied. 29 May: Benjamin Netanyahu, a right-winger, ousts Shimon Peres in national elections vow- 4 September: Netanyahu and ing to boost security. 23 July: Arafat meets David Levy, Israeli Foreign Minister,

in Gaza. 2 August: Netanyahu infuriates Palestinians by lifting four-year freeze on West Bank Jewish settlement expansion imposed by previous government.

29 Angust: Palestinians hold first general strike in West Bank and Gaza in two years to protest at Israeli policy; heads of Israeli-PLO steering committee on implemention of interim peace deals hold first meeting since Netanyahu took office.

Arafat hold first summit... 24 September: Israeli government opens tourist tunnel near Islamic holy site, igniting protests reminiscent of Pales-

tinian uprising and further souring relations with Arab states. 25 September: Israeli soldiers kill five Palestinians and wound about 300 during protests in West Bank town of Ramallah. 26 September: Thirty-nine Palestinians and 11 Israelis die in clashes in the worst violence since Israel and the PLO signed peace deal in 1993. White House summit. 27 September: Seven Palestini- 6 October: Following White

ans and three Israelis killed in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Arab East Jerusalem. Three of the Palestinians shot dead during stone-throwing protest out-side Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque, Islam's third holiest

strine. 28 September: Arab shot dead in Gaza but Palestinian police keep lid on protests in most of the West Bank and Gaza. 29 September: President Clinton invites Netanyahu, Arafat, Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to

24 December: Netanyahu and Arafat meet on Hebron. US Middle East envoy Dennis Ross reports "real progress".

settlers wounded.

er in southern Israel.

# Israeli deaths in south Lebanon highest for 10 years

Rashid Sinno

Beirut - Fighting between Muslim guerrillas and Israeli forces and their militia allies in south Lebanon killed 255 people in 1996, including 27 Israeli soldiers.

The soldiers' deaths make up the highest annual Israeli death toll on the last active Arab-Israeli frontline for more than a decade.

In 1995, 175 people died in south

Lebanon violence including 23 Israeli soldiers. A year earlier, 21 Israelis were among 201 people killed there. The 1996 figure is the highest annual Israeli death toll in Lebanon since 1985, when 37 sol-

The Jewish state pulled out the bulk of its 1982 invasion force that year and set up a border zone in the south to protect its northern ar-

eas from raids. Besides the 27 Israeli casualties,

the 1996 death toll includes 155 civilians and 54 guerrillas belonging mainly to the pro-Iranian Hizbollah and 19 militiamen of the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army (SLA). In 1995, the guerrillas killed 33 SLA men while the Israelis and

their militia allies killed 72 guerril-The main reason behind the rise in the south Lebanon death figures

cording to Lebanese officials - every day killed at least 170 people, mostly er groups. civilians.

A US-brokered ceasefire agreement that ended the campaign. barred firing at civilians but allowed raids on the Israeli-held zone and gave both sides the right to self-de-

Some 1,000 Israeli troops and the 3,000-strong SLA control a the 15last year was a 17-day Israeli blitz mile-wide zone in south Lebanon. against Hizbollah in April that - ac- They come under attack almost

every day from Hizbollah and oth-

Most of the Israeli and SLA casualties fall in roadside bomb attacks against their patrols or in coordinated guerrilla raids on patrols or posts using mortar bombs,

rockets or machineguns. Lebanon's official National News Agency has reported that, barring the April Hizbollah-Israel fighting. the guerrillas have launched a total of 365 attacks on the Israelis or

SLA in 1996. The remainder of the 1996 casualties in Lebanon include 13 people killed in various explosions in the country and 132 killed in non-political murders. There were 103 non-political murders in Lebanon in 1995 and 120 a year ear-

■ Israeli planes raided suspected guerrilla targets in south Lebanon on Tuesday night shortly after a guerrilla attack on two Israeli army

A Hizbollah spokesman in Beirut said that the air attack targeted the Jabal Sojoud area of the Iqlim al-Toufah ridge used by the pro-Iranian guerrillas to wage attacks on Israeli forces occupying the border

zone.

Sources with the SLA militia said the Israeli jets raided Iqlim al-Toufah after guerrillas attacked two Israeli posts on the edge of the Israeli-held zone. No one was hurt in the assaults, they said.

المحكنا من الاحل

The E lie abough

# The Church and Labour should be in harmony

he bishops are on a roll. From the Bishop of Rome down the became a code-word for reactionary bearers of cross and mitre are getting assertive. Their New Year messages exude confidence, the conviction that if not the Force then certainly the zeitgeist is now with them. This seems especially true of the Anglicans. It is not just what Simon Coventry, Mark Birmingham and other leading occupants of the bench of bishops are saying but the style with which they are saying it. Gone entirely is that hand-wringing diffidence which used to characterise Anglican pronouncements. Just before Christmas John Redwood told the bishops - this is an ancient Tory incantation - to provide a moral lead to the nation. Well, that is what they are now doing and it serves him right. It may not quite amount to an episcopal injunction to vote Labour or Liberal Democrat, but it comes pretty close to an invitation to throw off Tory rule for the sake of the nation's moral health.

It could be that the bishops have imbibed too deeply of Christmas spirit. After all, they are prelates of churches in which only a fraction of English people are active. Yet in a secular society the churches retain some influence, greater than numbers alone would justify; the bishops are still in a position to stir things up. Many people will demur at that. They hear the bishops talking morality and say, didn't last year see that word gang-raped by the polit-

views about sex and the family.

The bishops' New Year messages are about morality, yes, but they talk about obligations wider than parents and children, husbands and wives. They have not left those behind but they have placed them in a social context. Morality, they say, is also about the equity of institutions, about income distribution, urban deprivation. Morality is about judging the balance between public and private interest and determining the right way of conducting politics in a pluralist democracy. This is moral talk worth hearing - especially by the parties of the centre and left.

Earlier this week, in a desperate piece of confected controversy, the BBC tried to set the Labour Party up by squeezing remarks about abortion out of Archbishop Thomas Winning. Imagine, a Roman Catholic cardinal saving something disapproving about abortion! The real story was that those Scottish Labour MPs who, the cardinal claimed, were being censored on the abortion issue are, generally speaking, oldish Labour and well to the left of Tony Blair on questions of trade unions, state involvement in the economy and so on. It is a fair bet that Cardinal Winning is also, economically speaking, on the left.

That is why, for all the surface ripples about the cardinal's attack on Tony Blair, Labour needs more not less



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

intervention in politics by bishops like him. Labour does not have to concede a single inch over the abortion question to see that there is a lot more to morality than the fate of foetuses. One of the oddest aspects, indeed, of this whole Blair/Winning/abortion story is the suggestion that there is anything new in it. Cabinet papers for 1966 released this week confirm Harold Wilson's personal caution when it came to the great "permissive" legislation passed when he was Prime Minister. His hesitation stemmed partly from his own personal convictions, partly his awareness of Catholic sentiment in and

around his Huyton seat on Merseyside. What has changed since then?

Ordinary Catholics vote, like everyone else, for reasons of personal interest. They also pay some attention to their priests who, like the Pope in Rome, have never exhausted morality in talking about sex. Morality is also about justice in the tax system, about social obligations, the distribution of income and wealth and, as the present Pope often says, just treatment by employers of their employees. Working-class Catholics traditionally voted Labour, as they still do, because Labour represented fairness in society and fairness at work. Cardinal

not going to change that nor, pace the BBC, are they intended to.

In his New Year message the Bishop

of Oxford, Richard Harries, deplored what he called "pick and mix" morality. Some people will say, ah, you cannot have fairness in society and "social morality" without buying into reactionary religious positions on abortion (forbidden) and marriage (indissoluble). This is nonsense. There is a moral case to be made for the termination of pregnancy, constructed from fundamental tenets about individual choice and social responsibility. The point the bishops are making is surely that politicians can and ought to reach into these fundamentals and argue them through. escaping the superficiality of who wor-

ships where how many times a month.
The fact is that Labour is well-positioned on this moral territory. Even in its modish, Mandelsoned form it still has easier access to the language of commitments, responsibilities and reciprocal obligations than the Tories can ever aspire to. Tory talk about the morality of social arrangements (which necessarily encompasses most ostensibly personal conduct as well) rings hollow: neither John Major nor his intellectual partisans in the right-wing press have yet attempted to repudiate that devastating remark by Margaret Thatcher about there being no such thing as society.

The practical conclusion for Labour

Winning's statements about abortion are in 1997 is straightforward. The more bishops mounting the pulpit the better ... When they start influencing voters, then Labour needs to start worrying. Because then it will have to address the milk-and-water nature of so many of its tax and spending commitments and the resulting doubt whether a Blair-led government would make Britain a fairer place.

# A perfect meal: read all about it

The latest edition of Cultural Trends L confirms what a cursory glance in any bookshop window will tell you: books with pictures sell more copies than those without. Among books with pictures, increasing numbers of cookery books are being bought. But to what effect? We know that certain of Delia Smith's favourite things (eg peppers for grilling) are now supermarket staples. Yet we also know that along with all those books, the volume of sales of convenience foods is rising, suggesting that less peeling, chopping and slicing is going on in the nation's kitchens. How is that circle to be squared? Could it be that more and more people are eating Marks & Spencer ready-to-eat meals with one of the latest cookery books propped up in front of them?

### - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

### **Will Saudis** allow nurses a fair trial?

ntons

team

Sir: The article by the Saudi ambassador on "Why Islam's law bewilders the West" (1 January) was of real interest as an answer to the populist point of view on the current proceedings against the two British nurses, which as he rightly pointed out is mistakenly concentrating on the law as practised in Muslim states. It is not however an answer to those of us concerned with the behaviour of law-enforcement agencies and the conduct of fair trials involving foreigners. One can accept that that it is up to the foreigner in a country to observe the laws, but in this particular instance our legitimate concerns are not being addressed.

There is more than enough cossip, most of it apparently from Saudi circles, and little enough known fact surrounding this case. The main substantiated cause of concern is that one way and another consular officials were prevented from access to the accused, contrary to the Vienna convention, and that the nurses may have been subject to unfair pressure over a period of four days to extract a confession or confessions. If our understanding is in any way correct the facts must be thoroughly probed at trial and the so-called confessions rejected. It is our understanding that this is also

The main causes of anxiety as to the trial procedure are two. Is the basic right to have a lawyer

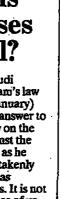
public? If not, will the authorities will have the right to be present under international convention,

own, have common procedural problems that are tackled over time by human beings whose first duty to man and God is to protect the innocent before considering the punishment of the guilty. There is at least one example of a country that combines punishments and laws unacceptable to Western opinion with the highest standards of judicial and procedural fairness. Perhaps the example of the Singapore courts could commend itself in this context.

The Fair Trials Abroad Thuss Richmond, Surrey

Sir: In her predictive review of a Labour-governed 1997 (30 December) Polly Toynbee restates your editorial theme that the post-1990 NHS structure "actually works well and will be left works were and the leaf tended works were and the leaf tended works were and the leaf tended clinicians would press for major organisational upheaval but even fewer would tolerate the loathsome

another five years. The reality of hospital funding through individual GP transactions and short-term health authority contracts is a two-tier, stop-go service where clinical need



to speak for you at trial and question witnesses to be observed?

Is the trial to take place in allow international legal rights observers to be present? With due respect to our local diplomats, who they are not versed in international procedural standards.
All legal systems, including our

STEPHEN JAKOBI

NHS staff driven

# to despair

hypocrisy of the internal market for

is subverted by financial caprice and public accountability is 

# Netary

replaced by self-serving propaganda from managers and Ask the fish quangocrats.

Hospital staff around the country are battle-weary from protecting patient services from the sham of the market. Unless this is replaced by a long-term commissioning system for secondary health care, increasing numbers of doctors, nurses and paramedicals will retreat disillusioned into retirement or private practice. Health care in the UK will be in danger of following the US example of escalating costs and inconsistent standards. MALCOLM SIMMS FRCS Consultant Surgeon Birmingham

Sir: May I offer an encouraging thought for the year ahead? At a time when so many brickbats are hurled at the National Health Service, it makes a pleasant change to be able to give unstinted praise. My wife, a stroke victim without any real prospect of recovery, is a patient on Priory Ward of Guisborough General Hospital. There, during the festive season, no effort was spared to provide good cheer. Everyone, including regular visitors like myself, partook of an excellent Christmas lunch. The nursing and support staff gave of their best to provide celebratory warmth and merriment, and they certainly succeeded.

Of course, all this has nothing to do with NHS internal markets: it is about a real concern for the happiness of people struck down by iliness. So long as such admirable spirit continues to prevail in our hospitals, all is not lost, PETER ORR Guisborough

### Caring anglers?

Sir: For the many anglers D A Beaumont (letter, 28 December) says he knows who go to great lengths to ensure the safety and welfare of fish they catch, I know many who do not.

I observe them quite regularly on my daily walks, sitting along the river bank and, in the summer, often asleep with cans of lager at their side, waiting for the electronic bite alarm on their rods to wake them if they get a bite. What skill is there in that? I rarely see an unhooking mat used; hence the damaged fish one can see in photographs in the angling press, injured by either being de-hooked on gravel surfaces or being kept too

long with other fish in a keep net. My daily walk to the river is to check on swans for a local rescue group. Most days - somewhere - a tackled swan is rescued and treated, often for the surgical removal of barbed hooks and other angling equipment. There is now a need for a National Swan Convention held in the autumn at Stratford-upon-Avon

to review this growing problem.

Anglers may well wish to give the impression of caring for the waters and wildlife but there is a cruel and unacceptable face to this sport. ROSALIND BARNES Langley, Berkshire

Sir. D A Beaumont suggests that the purpose of fishing for most anglers is to "pit their wits and expertise against the ... fish". This would be

fine if the fish were a willing participant, and if it were not risking rather more than the angler.

Angling organisations sometimes claim that fish are cold-blooded and therefore cannot feel pain. However, there is no scientific basis for this argument and the RSPCA Medway Report concluded that fish could feel pain in the same way as any other vertebrate. Why else

would they have a nervous system? Mr Beaumont says anglers care deeply about the fish that they catch and return. I suggest they demonstrate their compassion in a simple but effective way: stop fishing. RICHARD MOUNTFORD Birmingham

Sir: As a superior species on this planet we fail miserably in being compassionate to those who are at our mercy. At no time in human history have animals suffered at the hand of mankind as much as now.

Mahatma Gandhi said: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress should be judged by the way it treats its animals." As we approach the 21st century. mankind should make peace with the animal kingdom. NITIN MEHTA, President, Young Indian Vegetarians West Croydon, Surrey

Sir: Seventy years ago, two small children in North Yorkshire happened to be in at the kill when a

hunted vixen was run to earth. She was dug out by hunt servants, whose spades chopped up her cubs - for Lord G was hunting out of season. She was thrown to

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Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk). E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

the hounds, and her one surviving cub was taken for rearing and future sport. Farmers benefited. since shooting foxes would have cost them their tenancies, all the

landowners being sportsmen.

My sister and I were lucky not to be blooded by having the shredded vixen smeared over our heads, the traditional initiation of newcomers to the sport.

PETER HILL Tanworth-in-Arden, Warwickshire

### Mad logic of the house market

Sir: As one who is trying to move house I am fascinated by pronouncements from housing spin-doctors (commonly known as estate agents) on the impending house price boom("House prices cheer Tories", 27 December). It seems to be the received wisdom that many vendors are keeping their houses off the market until prices rise. This may be true, but the logic seems flawed.

If we assume that most people selling a house will be buying another one, and that the new house will cost more than the one they have sold, we can see the problem more clearly. If prices rise on a percentage basis (as say the spin-doctors), while people keep their house off the market the price of the house they want to buy will increase by a greater sum than the going to be worse off.

one they have to sell and they are Perhaps the logical solution is to

us also provide solid support and career guidance for those middleclass people for whom redundancy is not just another career move. This is a task which local colleges should cheerfully take on, as they did in the Eighties. Then the

sell your existing house and buy

your new one as soon as possible, before the much-lauded boom. But

no one has ever said the housing

market is governed by logic. Dr MARTIN PREENE

No more 'safe'

white-collar jobs

anxiety over jobs as an illusion, but

Sir: Yvette Cooper (article, 30

December) sees middle-class

sympathy for those whose jobs

But Ms Cooper should not

consists entirely of young, highly-

educated job-hoppers. For some

people have been losing the "safe"

previously. These workers possess

youthful go-getters, nor the street-wise skills of working-class

"early retirement" at 50, rather than

neither the qualifications of the

survivors. Many are opting for

face the unequal battle for a job.

educational opportunities for a

dispossessed labour force, but let

By all means let us have more

years, many older middle-class

jobs they acquired many years

assume that the middle class

a valuable one, prompting

really are both fleeting and

unrewarding.

"bridge" programmes for unemployed white-collar workers flourished, surprisingly, under Margaret Thatcher. ROLAND PEARSON Pinner, Middlesex

### of hyperreality Sir: Invoking Baudrillard, Peter

Oasis in the land

Popham describes a redoubling of Oasis stories as "post-modern" ("Oasis after the orgy", 30 December). He compares the band's simulation of cultural and aesthetic forms (such as their apparent aping of celebrity) unfavourably with the originality of the Beatles (who apparently discovered transgression, narcotic and otherwise, first). Popham claims that the reduplication of images by and of Oasis keeps them famous long after they should have disappeared. I would like to suggest that Popham misses an important aspect of Baudrillard's argument.

gain our attention without absolute justification, but this does not mean that their status is entirely false. This is because they occupy what Baudrillard calls the hyperreal. This is not the unreal any more than it is the absolutely real. Rather, it is a dimension of indistinction between (particularly media) representations and what they purport to represent. The real status of hyperrealities is undecidable, because the media image is real (for example, effective, even if not truthful) just as real things are always minimally mediated (for example,

televisually).
This complication is absent from Popham's article, which appeals to entirely real and unreal things as soon as it suggests that (real) people are duped into consuming Oasis despite their false (or unreal) media image. Against these appeals, it is worth considering the possibility that Oasis fans buy their music despite as well as because of their media image, and that Popham's article is just another article about how there should be fewer articles about Oasis. Dr MARTIN MURRAY. School of Literary and Media Studies

University of North London London N7

### Shops heat the high street

Sir: I was amazed on New Year's Eve, when the outside temperature was -2C, to find shops with their doors deliberately kept open. When I asked about this in one shop, I was told to mind my own business, as they had orders from management to do this and they

were quite warm, thank you. They seemed quite oblivious of the fact that they were wasting large amounts of energy, especially from overhead heaters next to the doors. Considering that the national electricity supply is stretched to its limit in such weather, this seems sheer madness. DAVID NOWELL

New Barnet Hertfordshire

### Whiz-kids

Sir: On 23 December you reported that 1,500 City bankers and brokers had each received a bonus of more than £500,000. The total budget of the primary school of whose governors I am chairman is less than £500,000. The school has some 340 pupils. We have got our national priorities obscenely

wrong. BILL KIRKMAN



Heinz Squeezy Ketchup 1:14kg £1.71 **BUY1GET** 50 POINTS



PG Tips 160s £2-95 **BUY 2 GET** 150 POINTS

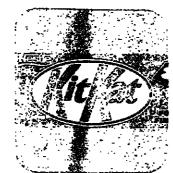


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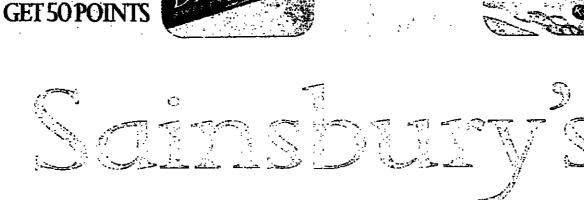
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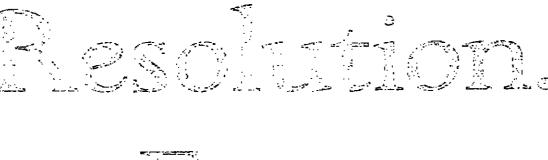








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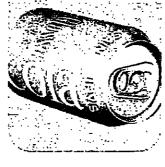


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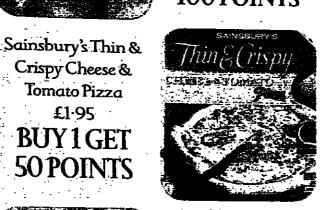
300ml

93<sub>p</sub>

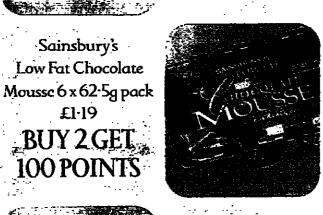
**BUY ANY 2** 

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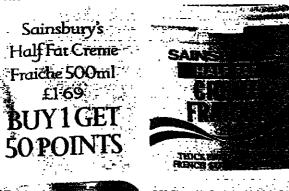
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Nestlé Toffee Crisp/Munchies Desserts 100g 59p. **BUY ANY 2 GET 50 POINTS** 



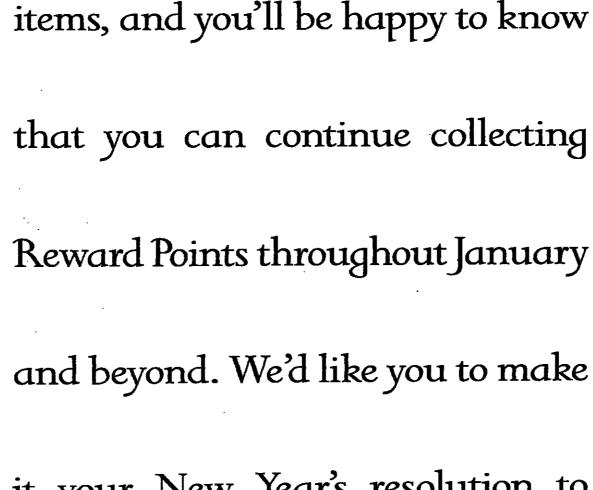
-Sainsbury's Duet 3 x 175g pack BUY1GET 25 POINTS

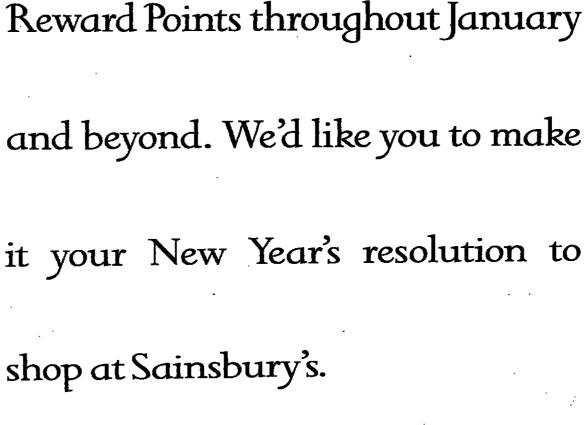


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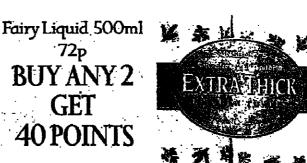
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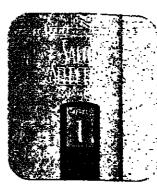
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INTENSIVE

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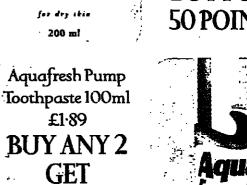


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# The joys of a sound Constitution

Britain's system of government may look silly, but improving

it would be difficult. In the first of a three-part series,

that the British Constitution doesn't exist. And that it is unique in not being written down in documents - certainly not in a single one. It is famously a set understand it, the obvious thing is to go to the Old Bailey in London, or our local town hall and magistrate's court, and see it at work. Children have always done that, and are usually properly impressed by the odd mixture of showmanship and seriousness they see.

Even so, Walter Bagehot, the great 19th-century constitalternating clamour and tedium of many of the public workings of government might indeed fuel the cynicism that opinion polls report - the easy dissidence of the well-governed.

So it is sensible to take an interest in the likes of Burke Macaulay and Bagehot (or Plato, Melbourne and a dozen nature of government, often

pologists describing how the odd behaviour of some tribe in fact makes sense. Not that any prescriptions, or the system, are set in stone: Edmund Burke noted, as though to counteract his seeming traditionalism: "A of arrangements and under- state without the means of standings. So if we want to some change is without the means of its conservation."

True to the spirit of much writing about the Constitution. we can begin by saying what it is not. Though an understanding of the nuances of the system is best to be found in something like the Oxford Dictionary of Political Quotations, it is abeach other's throats fighting about who should be in charge

A constitution depends on the sort of people it governs. You apply the same adjectives to a constitution as to the people it fits (or ill-fits). The British Constitution might not work for any other people, but it is, like us, reasonable without selves that no other people

contrived, so haphazard a way of preserving justice and liberty. Yet on all sides, people want to reform the Constitution. Some of the urge flows from a sense that the system ought to reflect their present style, not their inherited habits. In fact, the Constitution is sometimes solutely not about politics. It is almost too good at being modthe machinery by which politics ern: it allows, for instance, the utional essayist, approved of works. It has to be able to current taste for trivial abuse someone who said: "The cure breathe in a vacuum. Its ability and grandstanding to the media for admiring the House of to help a rabble become a to pervade the House of Com-Lords was to go and look at it." society is never better displayed mons: the verbal truce pro-

lasted for weeks, not months. Besides, much of the British Constitution's style (the parliament building itself, and many of its customs) are antique only in appearance: they were put together by Victorians in an age when Mammon wanted to clothe itself in medievalism.

But it is true that some habits others) who have discussed the being rational. We pride our-attach to the thing being very old, and proud of it: the roles

Richard D North makes the case against major reform would tolerate, or could have of heredity and religion, and some habits inherited from the 17th century, are genuinely important and might be hard to shift. They may become more

fashionable if we learn that

deference can be liberating, and need be only a very mild

ven the most peculiar bits of the Constitution constantly refresh themselves. The monarchy certainly does, if a little bizarrely. The monarchy appeals to many: to intellectual, because it enshrines lofty mysteries; and especially to women, "who care". as Walter Bagehot remarked. "50 times more for a marriage than a ministry". Nearly everyone senses that it would be a

form of subservience.

pity if it ceased to work. We have the House of Lords, in which people who share only the characteristics of having had (often surprisingly recent) ancestors who were rapacious or industrious or both, and who have mostly had an Eton education, are allowed to talk and vote on an equal footing with the most distinguished elder statesmen, churchmen and lawyers in the land (who are often the scions of long dynasties of the worldly wise).

Some absurdities in the Constitution are merely the accretion of habits formed in simpler and much more corrupt times. These include the first-pastthe-post voting system, which systematically disenfranchises a

very year, people who have been analysing the births columns

write to The Independent to

tell us that Sophie has edged

that James and John are still

popular. Regular readers of

this column will know that I

approach: I take names only

headlines, thus making sure

influential names of the year.

found that the most common

first name for boys according

to the headline test was one

public fame (for a long time,

in Mr Leeson's case) with

the curious result that this

year the name Nicholas has

The name Nicholas seems to

who have a habit of slipping on banana skins. Sir Nicholas

Lyell, for instance, who was

overtaken Nick. Not, in all

cases, with happy results.

be favoured by politicians

In 1995, for instance, I

have a more sophisticated

from the newspaper

course, "OJ".

that I find all the most

ahead of Tamsin again or

substantial minority of thought- a prejudice against the mob. It ful voters; that is, those who is designed to eliminate any vote for a third party outside its select and politically eccentric heartlands. It also disenfranchises people who live in areas where there are few others of their political stamp; that is, socialists in suburbs and conservatives in slums, neither of whom can hope to dent the outcome of an election. The Constitution should appal any democrat who believes in rule "by and for the people", and

therefore most socialists. vides a family soap opera; to the most antique when it enshrines ment should shock any who most worries us.

COMFORT FOR REACTIONARIES

democratic institutions impossible

Bertrand Russell, 1872-1970

A fanatical belief in democracy makes

I feel an insuperable reluctance in giving my

hand to destroy any established institution of

government on a theory, however plausible it

The worst sort of tyranny the world has ever

known: the tyranny of the weak over the

strong. It is the only tyranny that lasts -

Authority doesn't work without prestige,

Oscar Wilde, 1854-1900

or prestige without distance

- Charles de Gaulle, 1890-1970

may be - Edmund Burke, 1729-1797

cracy, and is instead a system for selecting and controlling a governing élite (the parliamentarians). A plebiscitic democracy, perhaps ushered in by the silicon chip, would, in one sense, be merely the last step towards democracy, but, in another, the first towards popular rule. But direct democracy risks the perpetual excitement of surfing moral panics, or the tedium of

living in a Swiss canton.

believe that it is important to have checks and balances between the executive parts of government (the civil service, or Whitehall), the legislature (the law makers, or Parliament) and the justice system. We operate, as Bagehot remarked, by choosing a single sovereign authority and making it good" That is, Parliament, control of which is centralised in the hands of a ruling party. Within that rule, the rule of the few is enshrined by Cabinet, creating, as Lord Hailsham noted, an

is modern only in degree. Yet, with all these absurdities, what has caused us most structural issue; it serves as a replace them with anything good example of why getting in a lather about the Constitution

"elective dictatorship" which

e elect parliamentarians to do various contradictory jobs: to represent whatever interest they like, or that is prepared to pay them; to represent the personal interests of their constituents: to represent their aggregated local interest. Only having done all those must they become lobby fodder for a party platform which orders many of these and other interests into something like a vision for the nation. All along, we want them to share Burke's sense that an MP should lead as well as represent his constituents: "I had much rather run the risk of displeasing than of injuring them."

We know that government has always been about the jostling of great interests - the interests of this or that class, or sort of money – but we fear that sense of their own dignity, and with it the operational part of their consciences.

In any case, the point is that we ought to cure the evil in stages, beginning with the least and lightest actions. This is what is happening. Worried by sleaze, or the patronage system which appoints the boards of quangos, we appointed the Nolan committee to inquire into and propose ways to root out bad practice. Only if that fails - and there is no evidence yet that it will fail - will we need to move on and worry that we are perhaps enticing the wrong sort of people into politics. We must hope that we are, because we can't be at all sure that we disquiet recently is not a major can quickly and certainly

superior. If we decided the practices is almost always a waste of and people in Parliament were how to make them other, we might then consider reforming the Constitution in some way to make sure that MPs could have no power for wrong-doing. We might be tempted to set something over Parliament, to celebrate (as some misguided people do) the way that the EU's institutions might be set over ours; or judges might oversee parliament; or some "people's

jury" might do the job. We have no evidence from anywhere in the world that the Constitutions which were spawned by, but tried to improve on, our own are in fact superior to their scruffy parent. They are more formal, more orderly, more explicit. In most of them, parliament is subject to superior authority. The result is the appearance of order but a great deal more muddle in outcome.

Tomorrow: The danger of propoliticians have lost a proper portional representation and



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From Ardal to OJ: the names in the frame adjudged by the Scott Report to have got things so badly wrong that a less sensitive man might have thought of resigning. Nicholas Soames, for another example, who told the House that he had got it all wrong about Gulf War Syndrome and was sorry for having misled the House, and Sir Nicholas Scott, who was adjudged by his constituency party to have been lying. Lying on a pavement because of **Miles** painkillers, apparently, but still lying. Our advice is to Kington take anything told you by a politician called Nicholas

not even mentioned in the with a pinch of salt. And births columns. It was, of Michael, too, if we think of Howard and Portillo.
And William, too, if we Another popular name in 1995 was Nick, being borne think of William Waldegrave by such celebrities as Nick who was adjudged by the Faldo, Nick Leeson, Nick Scott Report to have told Ross, Anne 'n' Nick etc. Most untruths to Parliament but who told us he could not see of these have vanished from

why he should resign. Maybe this was not true either. Other names which did better than usual in 1996 among the male contenders were Kevin and Ian, who were for Britain what OJ was for the US, and Damon. owing to the success of Damon Hill, who won the BBC Sports Personality of

the Year title, despite having kept any signs of a personality invisible from the public. The same is true of John Major, who was awarded a personality by listeners of Today, but not by anyone else. Perhaps it was a joke by multiple telephoners from the Tory party.

There were some new names among the male candidates. Nice to see Slobodan and Radovan on the up, as well as Gareth, the only big new name to emerge from Euro 96. Arwel was a new one on me, being borne by one of the emerging Welsh rugby stars.

and so was Ardal, which seems to be a name favoured by Irish comedians along with Dermot and Dylan, I am convinced that Neil would have been up there if only Neil Hamilton had had the courage to take on The Guardian in court, or at least slipped them some money to stop them asking questions, but it was not to be ...

So, without further ado, to the top 10 male names of 1996. Drum roll and fanfare. please! (Last year's positions are in brackets, incidentally.)

· ·	_
. Mister	<b>(</b> -
2. Binyamin	i-
3. Wallace	1-
1. Gromit	i.
5. Colin 5. Moham(π)ed	(-
o. Monam(m)ed	<u>(</u> -
7. Nicholas	ĺλ
3. Saddam 9. Bhumibol	<u>(-</u>
10. Paul	٧.
	۲-

Mister, of course, is the universal first name of all Jane Austen heroes - Mr Darcy. Mr Willoughby, etc and as this has been Austen year again, it was an inevitable winner. Binyamin is the exotic first name of Israel's leader, though of course it is not as exotic as

his second name, pronounced Net-and-vahoo. Wallace and Grount need no explanation, though I may say en passanı how nice it is to see a dog's name up there. Colin is the name of the man who should have been American president. Every time Clinton or Dole was mentioned (and. incidentally, isn't it odd that a man named after unemployment pay should run for the presidency?). someone else wrote regretfully about Colin well being so much better. Moham(m)ed is the name shared by the man who owns Harrods and Punch and also by Mohammed al-Masari. the now forgotten Sandi troublemaker, and indeed by the great Prophet. Bhumibol is the name of the king of Thailand who has not only been on the throne for 40 years but also likes jazz, which is beyond any of our royal family. And Paul creeps in finally because there are so many people called Paul - Gambaccini, Merton, Gascoigne, Boateng, etc - and nobody called Gazza any more.

Girls' names tomorrow!

1...

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# the commentators

# The Eurosceptic lie about why we fought Hitler

any people believe that Britain fought that Britain fought two world wars to preserve her independence from the looming Germandominated European super-state. So they lend a receptive ear when urged, as they often are these days by the Euro-sceptics, to resist the Teutonic hordes for a third time. But the truth is that Britain never went to war to

prevent a German invasion. The summer of 1940, when Britain stood alone, back to the wall, against Nazi tyranny, and changed the

tyranny, and changed the course of history, is a powerful national myth. Like many myths, this one is essentially true. But it has been misappropriated, its lessons perverted, by Europhobic nationalists.

Even leaving aside the absurdity of comparing Kohl and the Eurocrats to Hitler and the Gestapo, the picture of plucky little Britain going to war in defiance of the invading Hun has no basis in fact. Both in 1914 and 1939, Britain fought not to protect Britain fought not to protect herself from German invasion but to influence events on the Continent.

ntons

eam

In 1914 Germany went to war to break out of a perceived encirclement and to pre-empt a feared French

attempt to win back Alsace and Lorraine. Britain went to war in support of Belgian independence, her French ally and the balance of power in Europe. At no point were the Germans in any position to invade Britain.
In the Second World War they were, and

would have done, but for the victory of the RAF in the Battle of Britain. But when and how did Hitler come to have designs on British

On 1 September 1939 Hitler invaded Poland, whose integrity Britain and France had guaranteed; both declared war on Germany. On 10 May 1940 Hitler attacked France and the Benefux countries. German success was swift; by 4 June the Allied armies in northern France were shattered and the British had withdrawn from Dunkirk, On 16 June France sought an armistice.

Although German military and naval staffs were already considering the problems of an invasion of Britain, Hitler hoped Britain would make peace, leaving him a free hand on the Continent. Some in Britain were receptive to that idea. On 17 June R A Butler. deputy to Lord Halifax, the Foreign Secretary, met Swedish minister Björn Prytz to discuss peace feelers.

Next day, 18 June, Churchill put a stop to that sort of thing by delivering in the House of Commons his "finest hour" speech: "Hitler knows that he will have to break us in this island or lose the war ... If we fail then the whole world ... will sink into the abyss of a new Dark Age ..." Even so, it was not until



**Guy Keleny** 

Britain took up arms in two world wars not, as many believe, to prevent an invasion but to bring its

influence to bear upon the Continent

Britain? We can see some pointers. Hitler the racist admired the British Empire - for reasons that would have appalled many British empire-builders - and had no wish to destroy it. He was all for Britain oppressing and

16 July that Hitler ordered

preparations to begin for the

Three days later, on 19 July, Hitler delivered his cel-

ebrated ultimatum: "I feel

obliged ... to direct once

more an appeal of reason to England ... Herr Churchill

may dismiss this declaration

of mine ... In that case I have

freed my conscience about

Herr Churchill's dismissal of

that declaration and on 24

July the Völkischer Beo-bachter, the Nazi party news-

paper, carried the headline: "England has chosen war".

On 1 August the Luftwaffe was ordered to smash

Britain's air defences as a preliminary to invasion.

fought the Second World

War to avert a threat to her

sovereignty is the reverse of

the truth. That threat arose

only because she resolved to

fight the war to a finish, to

overthrow Nazi tyranny and

put a stop to German aggres-

Hitler in 1940 have meant for

What would peace with

sion on the Continent.

The notion that Britain

On 22 July Halifax issued

invasion of Britain.

exploiting the non-white peoples of Africa and India while he did the same and worse to the Jews and Slavs of Eastern Europe. Churchill would have been replaced by a

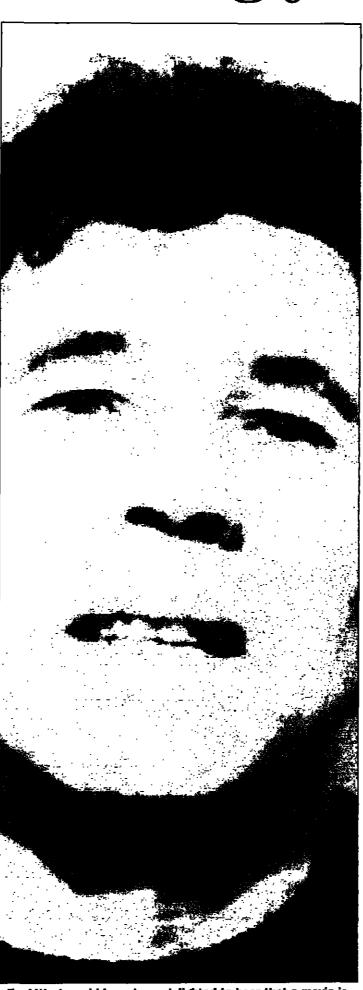
more compliant prime minister. Goodwill towards Germany would have become com-pulsory. The pro-Nazi former King Edward VIII might have returned to the throne, displacing his brother, George VI. What is certain is that Britain's power to shape events in Europe would have been extinguished.

ritain would have been rendered impotent, excluded, on the margin of a continental superstate. To prevent that, Britain dragged down Napoleon in the 19th century and Hitler in the 20th. Strange if something very like it were to happen in the 21st through British withdrawal from the European Union. Europhobes are fond of claiming the mantle of Churchill, The events of 1940 suggest the one that fits them is that of Halifax and the appeasers. The decision to fight on in June 1940 was an act of engagement with Europe in her darkest hour, when

the faint-hearts would have cut Britain loose. If the two world wars have a lesson for us today as we face historic decisions about how far and how fast to go along the road of European integration, it is a lesson not about defending British sovereignty but about maintaining British influence for the good in the affairs of continental Europe.

# Freddy's final fantasy – watching you watching him

حكدا مل الاعل



Fred West would have been delighted to hear that a movie is being made of his murderous life

by Suzanne Moore

The murder

of women is

part of our

proud

heritage

wo years ago. Fred West hanged himself in his prison cell before his trial could take place. He must have known his suicide would only add to his celebrity status. His illiteracy did not get in the way of his knowingness. On the cell wall he had scratched his own epitaph: "Freddy, the mass murderer from Gloucester."

Freddy? West implicitly understood that we are now on such intimate terms with our killers we call them by their boyish first names. Like Jack the Ripper and Jack the Lad. Freddy the Fox got away. Two years on, Freddy would be delighted to know he is still in the news. He would be pleased that what he did to make himself feel important

A deal to make a film of his life has been struck by the Official Solicitor with the Portman Entertainment Group, which has purchased the non-documentary film telepurchased the non-documentary film tele-vision and video rights to archive material from the West estate. Among the goodies on offer are tapes of West talking to the police, copies of his favourite pornographic films and pages from his memoirs. The con-tract also includes an option agreement on the biography written by Geoffrey Wansell called An Evil Love. Wansell wrote his book with the co-postation of the

with the co-operation of the Official Solicitor who offered him access to the hours of police interviews with West, and his small memoir, I Was Loved by an Angel, written in his prison cell, as well as much other written material. This, the "intellectual property" of West's life, was offered up by Peter Harris, the Official Solicitor, who, in his duty to administer the West estate, considered that it was his duty

"to protect the financial interests of his five minor children". Now, in seeking to max-imise the returns on the estate, Harris has made a film deal.

What, one might ask, is a government official doing flogging the rights of a ser-ial killer's life? Any financial benefit that is being obtained for the children is surely outweighed by the emotional distress caused if the film was ever to be made. Can any tragedy eventually be exploited? While everyone has the deepest sympathy for the West children and may even feel they deserve some kind of compensation, the idea that this compensation is to be earned in this way is sordid beyond belief. Money has already changed hands for Stephen and Mae West's book *Inside 25* Cromwell Street and Anne Marie West's book Out of the Shadows. But one senses these books were written not purely for money but as a floundering attempt to make some sense of the hell that their authors have lived through.

Books and films, however, are not the same thing. What would a film of West's life story attempt to achieve? Who would play West? Anthony Hopkins or Colin Firth? If West's life was extraordinary it was also increasingly repetitive - dramatic ten-sion would have to be found in the murders themselves. Otherwise we could have ourselves a little romance. Rosemary and Fred's "evil love" for each other would be the parrative through which we encountered the man's life.

The movie, I guess, like all the books yet o come, would promise to throw some light on the darkness, help us understand the mind of an ordinary monster. The serial killer industry does, after all, rely on the idea that its products are educational rather than entertaining. Yet what exactly are we to learn? That killers have bad backgrounds, bad genes, bad blood? Despite the cod science, this is what it all balls of the cod science in the cod science. boils down to. And despite the efforts of some writers to turn murderers into existential anti-heroes, symptomatic of the malaise of the late-20th century, these men are disturbingly samey, their fantasies of control arising out of their predictable inadequacies, their fear of women, their fear of their desire for women, manifest-

ing itself in dull brutality. What exactly is it that we want to eatch sight of? What is this perverse desire for imagery rather than imagination? When the remains of the young women were carried out in boxes from "the house of hor-ror" by grim-faced policemen, we realised that there wasn't actually much to see. The tabloids tried to show us what the inside of Cromwell Street looked like with a series of diagrams and plans as if seeing made it more comprehensible. Harassed mothers

took along their bundled up toddlers to Cromwell Street so that they could see "what evil looked like".

The uncomfortable truth is that Fred West liked to watch too. He was a voyeur. He liked to watch pain but he liked to call it pleasure. He liked to watch his wife having sex with other men in front of

him, on a video, through a peep-hole. Watching gave him a feeling of power. Watching films about him killing might make us feel more in control, too.

Our fascination with West is also sexual. doubt there will be offers flooding in on the rights to film Thomas Hamilton's life. We may not like to admit it but the sexual torture and death of young women is titillating. We live in a culture, after all, in which the murder of women is part of our proud heritage. Not long ago I got out of a car at midnight in Shoreditch only to stumble upon an assertive young American woman carefully explaining how to remove a uterus from a female corpse. I was in the middle of a Jack the Ripper tour.

Tust as few of us ever remember the names of the Ripper's victims, so, too. are all the lost girls of the West case unlikely to have their stories properly told. No one will find them interesting enough individuals to make movies of their brief lives or write long psychological profiles about them. No one much cared how they explored their fantasies. If a life's worth can be measured by its hold in the public imagination. theirs is still without much worth. West didn't think they were worth anything either.

Yet, as long as this killer is so much more fascinating to us than the killed, then we cannot afford to be outraged at the prospect of a film of the life story of Fred West. And, as long as we are in thrall to such death stories rather than life stories, then we will want to see everything we can. Just like Freddy did.

# The stove that's hot in Hollywood

ime magazine started it by printing three pages on the Great British Stove. But the Express has gone the most gaga over the Aga saga with its story on the hottest new thing in Hollywood, Apparently, over in Tinseltown, both Julia Roberts and Dustin Hoffman own Agas. Forget fashion or fragrance, the latest must-have in America is nothing less than an old-fashioned British cooker," according to the Express. "Americans covet our history because they haven't any of their own, and the closest way they can attain this is to buy British."

I consulted Ian Heath, marketing manager of Aga-Rayburn, to find out what was going on in Tinseltown. We haven't been going out of our way to get that business," he said cagily. But he did reveal that the craze is spreading even into animation. "Have you seen 101 Dalmations yet?" he asked. Well, I believe Cruella de Vil has one in the kitchen - a cream two-

Cruella had one, then other villainesses were sure to follow. Soon Cinderella would be scouring away as her step sisters warmed their bunions on its doors, and the Wicked Queen would be admiring her reflection in the stove's insulating lids ("Mirror, mirror on the Aga"). It's a whole new

But there is something suspicious here. Can Miss de Vil really own a cream 140-door? This is a woman who wears Siberian tiger and sleeps in a feathered bed, as in plumed. At the very least one would expect a zebra-striped four-door that stands on red stiletto heels and sports a marabou flue. Further investigation

I rang several Americans to find out was needed. more but they feigned ignorance.
Didn't they feel an overwhelming desire to discover Britain's ancient rural mots by purchasing the cooker invented by a Swede in 1922 and manunvented by a swede in 1922 and manufactured in the Midlands using Russian ore and Australian coal? "No, not really. Never heard of it", was the uniTinseltown is gaga about Agas, it seems, as the cast-iron chunk of British kitchen culture finds its way into films

as well as film-stars' homes, writes Ann Treneman

then it does weigh 1,000lb and cost £10,000 (as opposed to about £3,775 here). So why was it so special? Somehow saying it had no dials and lots of ovens that you had little control over did not do it justice. More impressive were its globetrotting ways - an owner in the Lebanon flies out Aga technicians once a year and there is a solid fuel one in an Antarctica Quonset hut - and the fact that it is a literary phenomenon.

For instance, there's Julia of Church Cottage in Joanna Trollope's The Men and the Girls: "The kitchen was warm, even at two in the morn-I could not believe it. Well, if ing because of the Aga, the dark-blue Aga that Julia had chosen with such grave care. Hugh had teased her about it. Miss Immaculate Conception', he called her. 'Miss Perfect Understatement. Miss Shiny Shoes'."

Silence greeted this passage - time to give up on transatlantic education - but there was more than a hint of Cruella in those words. Understatement is not her thing, but she does wear shiny shoes (and bodysuits, too) and her zebra-chaired sitting room is

ary Berry, author of The Aga Book, claims that her own four-oven claret blue Aga is not a stove but a way of life. But is it a Hollywood way of life? "I don't know about Hollywood but I went to America last year to do Aga work-shops - Atlanta, New York and around - and America is the perfect place because if you are rich there you have two houses and one is in the mountains, and what better welcome can you get than from an Aga?" She also has Americans who fly to England for her Aga cooking workever I empty the washing machine I automatically pick out things like that jumper I want to wear tonight, and Julias living happily ever after in

It turns out that only 300 exist in the entire nation (that's six per state) but shops (she is booked well into May) carefully fold it on the simmering plate, and it is soon cosy and ready." Some of Mrs Berry's clients have



Pretty cooker: Julia Roberts loves her Aga

Church Cottage. "My people at work-shops tell me all sorts of stories. Like, 'I don't mind my husband going but I don't want to lose the Aga. 'Or, if they are getting divorced, 'It's bad enough losing him but not the Aga, too." One can see the ad now - a Diana-lookalike slams the door, throws the keys away and drives off in the Aga.

Agas have already moved away from a purely cosy image. "In television commercials they are there as an upmarket consumer durable – an AB1 kitchen that people aspire to," says Ian Heath. It is also getting easier to own one: the power flue means you no longer need a chimney, and the new Aga Companion is a conventional electric cooker in disguise.

ut Aga will never be just a cast-B iron shell with style because its owners revel in it so much. There is even a MAGA-zine for them to write in to, and it was here that I came across the most likely explanation for the Cruella factor. "A further use our plate-warming oven has had is saving the lives of sick puppies," writes Lady du Burlay of Buntingford, "and on one occasion drying off six four-week-old puppies who had to have a medical bath."

Of course, Cruella would not be using the plate-warming oven. As she announces to the puppy man: "I don't care how you do it. Drown them. Burn them. Got any chloroform? I don't care how you kill the little beasts, just do it and do it now." As only Cruella could say: "I love the smell of near

But then, as I was sitting in the movie theatre, disappointment struck. Oh, there is an Aga, all right, but it is in the wrong kitchen. The person puttering over it is not Cruella but Nanny, played with Aga-like home-liness by Joan Plowright. It is com-forting, it is warm, it is a stove for saving puppies, not roasting them. It is a stove for the Julias of this world, and not those who drive a car with the number plate "Dev IL". No one's gaga in this saga after all, but it was Photomontage: Jonathan Anstee TiOI-so-nice while it lasted.



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# Fear for jobs as Pitman talks of outsourcing to India

Barrie Clement Labour Editor

The head one of the country's biggest banks will spark fresh fears of a massive new wave of iob losses in the new year after warning that the industry still employs too many people and should consider "outsourcing" services to countries like India. Sir Brian Pitman, chief exec-

utive of Lloyds TSB, told a group of business leaders that companies could benefit from and business service sector, Sir

"much lower costs" by contracting out many of their ac-

"I don't think we have fully confronted the opportunities in outsourcing and what the consequences will mean for our business as we really grab the opportunities of much lower costs ... by getting business done elsewhere," he said.

Addressing a conference to launch "Leading People", a study of leadership in financial petition would lead senior management to consider "much more outsourcing than we have at the moment".

In a reference to the whole of British industry, he said: "It is not a question of producing quality products at a high price, it is producing top quality products at the lowest price possi-

Companies in widely different sectors such as British Airways and North West Water are

nent had "the second-largest English-speaking scientific and Brian said that increasing com- already taking advantage of the low salaries earned by protrainable manpower pool in ficient and English-speaking Indians. Data-processing staff in the world" the sub-continent generally earn around a tenth of the

salaries received by British col-

leagues and so the burgeoning

software industry in India can

comfortably undercut in-house

A report by the Delhi-based

National Association of Soft-

ware and Service Companies

pointed out that the sub-conti-

services in Britain.

While it started from a low base, the association calculated that the Indian software sector had grown 46 per cent annually between 1990 and 1995 - almost twice as fast as the business in the United States.

The author of the leadership report, Amin Rajan of the research consultancy Create, believes the resurgent interest in

banks farming out cheque processing, insurance companies contracting out the payment of claims and securities dealers outsourcing settlements. Tens of thousands of jobs are involved in such activities. One chief ex-ecutive of a banking group told Mr Rajan that 15 per cent of the company's costs could be saved

by contracting out money trans-In the 1980s companies began by oursourcing in-house ser-

"outsourcing" could mean vices such as catering and cleaning, then proceeded to farm out information technology systems. Next an increasing number of "core" activities will be contracted out, he believes.

> the report that the first "outsourcing" wave would benefit companies in the UK. Countries like India would begin to benefit later as the cost

However, Mr Rajan argues in

He said that the cost savings could often be illusory. He detected that some companies were aiready taking back some activities which they had previivantages became clearer and knowledge of their experously "outsourced". tise spread.

Ed Sweeney, general secre-tary of the Banking Insurance

and Finance Union, expressed

concern about the trend.

"There is nothing that can't be

outsourced if they put their

minds to it, but they can sacri-

fice quality and they can also

Somet

# **Buoyant start** heralds rate rise after election

Diane Coyle **Economics Editor** 

rates to prevent the economy overheating and reduce government borrowing, according to New Year forecasts pub-

The predictions coincided with fresh evidence that 1997 is opening with a swing, with a survey showing business confidence at an all-time high and many companies planning to raise prices. Retailers reported that the January sales had got off to a flying start.

The shadow Treasury minister Alan Milburn yesterday predicted a new start for the economy with a new Labour government. The recovery, he said, was "threatened on every side by Tory economic failure.

Shoppers have more than ful-

filled the promise of a Christ-

mas spending boom, with a

last-minute rush helping to

quell fears of disappointing

sales, according to anexdotal ev-

idence from stores throughout

also kicked off in buoyant fash-

compiles nationwide retail sta-

tistics, is "fairly upbeat" about

the Christmas spending scason. A Verdict spokesman said: "Re-

tail sales for December were up

about 7 per cent on the same pe-

riod last year, which is not far

a had time compared to fore-

casts. But the spokesman added

that more generally, although

there were some downbeat fig-

ures for total sales in the week

before Christmas, the last two

days turned out to be buoyant.

Clothing seemed to have had

from expectations."

Post-Christmas sales have

The party produced a dossier on the Conservative Govern-

Shoppers on a

ment's economic record, claiming that "ordinary families have A new Labour government will have to raise taxes and interest since the last general election".

Mr Milburn added that inflationary pressures were grow-ing and interest rates rising. Increasing the cost of bor-rowing might have to be one of

the first acts of an incoming government if consumer spending accelerates between now and the election, according to a new report out today from independent consultancy Cambridge Econometrics. It notes that if Labour does win the election, the party will

inherit an economy in far better shape than its predecessors in 1974 and 1979 enjoyed. Even so, tax increases would be needed to bring government borrowing under control and finance its spending plans, the

report predicts.

Politically, the best time to

introduce these is as early as possible after the election. Fortunately the timing is also likely to be right from the viewpoint of the macro-economic background," it says. A separate forecast from the

City investment bank Goldman Sachs makes the same diagnosis. It says that although nothing dramatic should go wrong with the economy in 1997, there will be signs of overheating in a widening trade deficit and faster earnings growth. The strong pound will help keep inflation close to the Government's 2.5 per cent target but at the expense of export growth.

Unemployment is likely to fall below 1.7 million by the end of this year and to 1.5 million by the end of 1998, Goldman Sachs predicts.

"We expect the next government to take early action to ensure that the period of overheating is quite shortlived," write the report's authors, David Walton and

The Goldman Sachs report shortfall in government finances in the present financial year thanks to buoyant growth, but says that by the time the economy slows back to its normal trend, the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement will be too high for comfort on un-

changed tax and spending plans. The likely need to raise interest rates will take the shine off record levels of business confidence, according to a survey of medium-sized companies by Lloyds Bank Commercial

The survey shows optimistic businesses planning to increase employment by more than at any time since the question was first asked in 1993. The upturn during the past six months has been centred on services, especially transport and communications and hotels, catering

ment store and Waitrose supermarket chain, said it had set itself a tough estimate for the two weeks to last Saturday. which as a group it had achieved. "Our 23 department stores signalled a 6-plus per cent increase compared to a year ago

about what we had hoped,"

As for the post-Christmas sales, the consultancy said they said the spokesman. had got off to a good start. Sue Sadier, a spokeswoman The huge Lakeside Shopfor Marks & Spencer, added to ping Centre at Thurrock, Essex, the Christmas cheer: "Towards attracts shoppers from all over the end of the Christmas perithe south-east of England, and od trade went very well. People were marching into the shops. as such its strong sales performance is a sign of the general picture. Heather Hudson-Old-Our sales, which started on Friday, have been very sucnall, marketing manager, says

spending spree Lakeside was visited by 36,000 cars a day in the run-up to Christmas, representing around 650,000 customers a week. This is up on last year's 32,000 cars per day in the same period. Lakeside's busiest day of the year came on 27 December when 48,000 cars visited the complex, representing around 144,000 shoppers. Again this

was up on last year's figure of ion. Verdict Research, which around 44,000 cars. Services. The amount of money people spent during the run-up to Christmas definitely exceeded expectations, she says. "I don't think the Budget had any negative impact." A spokesman for the John Lewis Partnership, the depart-

> and leisure. But much of the upsurge in confidence is down to plans to raise prices and increase profit margins, the survey shows. The balance of firms raising rather than cutting prices during the last six months had been the lowest since mid-1993.

> Michael Riding, managing director of commercial banking, said: "Middle-market companies increasing prices in the coming months will stoke inflationary pressures."

The resulting upward move in interest rates would dent con-

## Grid rejects widespread blackout fears

The National Grid yesterday dismissed fears that Britain could be in store for widespread blackouts as the electricity transmission system nears breaking point.

A spokesman said it was simply not true" to suggest that the Grid was in danger of not being able to meet demand. forcing it either to reduce voltage - which makes lights go dimmer ~ or impose selective ower cuts.

The fears have been fuelled both by worries that gas-fired power stations with interruptible supply contracts could be collapse.

suddenly taken off-line and by the surge in demand during peak periods which has occurred this winter.

The big test could come on the second Tuesday of the month - 14 January - in theory the day of reckoning when de-mand traditionally hits its annual peak.

Heavy industrial users of electricity and power station chiefs themselves have been voicing increasing concerns about the ability of the system to cope with demand. In the last year there have been nine so-called "near misses" when the system has come close to

But the Grid said it was confident that it had enough surplus generating capacity to meet vhatever demand the worst cold snap could produce.

"There is more than 60,000 megawatts of capacity linked to the transmission system while peak demand last winter was 48,700 megawatts," the spokesman added. "It is simply not true to say the system is in danger of collapse. The amount of planning that goes into scheduling plant months ahead is buge. There are bundreds of engineers working on this night and day, both at our national control centre and in the power

Part of the Grid's problem is meet sudden surges or unexthat most of the country's power stations are located in the North while the majority of demand is in the South. This can cause bottlenecks in the Midlands, forcing Grid engineers to call up more expensive generating capacity in the South to meet

demand. It has two methods of meeting unexpected shortages. One is to issue what is known as a Notification of Inadequate System Margin - an invitation to generators to bid more expensive plant into the electricity pool to ensure demand is met. The second is reserve capacity it keeps on the system to

pected breakdowns forcing power stations to trip out. The standby capacity ranges from 400 megawatts to 1,500

Plant availability during the winter peak has risen from 97.1 per cent at the start of the decade to 98.7 per cent last year. However, plant margin - the amount by which installed capacity exceeds forecast demand - has been steadily falling as older power stations are retired and not replaced at the same rate. Plant margins are running at 20 per cent compared with 30 per cent and higher in the early 1990s.

# Water industry operates in 'tax-free zone'

assault on the privatised water companies, claiming that new figures released by the industry watchdog Ofwat revealed that they paid virtually no mainstream corporation tax on their core activities last year, writes Michael Harrison.

Describing the industry as a "tax-free zone", Frank Dobson the party's environment spokesman, said that despite making £11bn in profits and paying out £3.5bn in dividends to shareholders since privatifidence, he predicted.

Labour yesterday renewed its sation, the 10 water companies had paid almost no tax. According to Mr Dobson,

the Ofwat data released to Labour show that eight of the 10 had paid no mainstream corporation tax at all on their core water and sewage businesses. Three of these - Severn Trent, Southern Water and Welsh Water - had made a negative tax contribution by offsetting their core activities against the overall tax liability of the parent company.

computerise its accounts in America. Before meeting

Richard, he worked as a chef in

the trendy mid-town restau-

overnight, proof-of-delivery, mailing service for volume mail

that is exempt from the statutes

that give monopolies for ordi-

nary letter carriage to govern-ment postal services like the US

Mail and, in Britain, the Royal

Mail. In practice, this means a

lot of printed material from fi-

nancial institutions as well as

media and entertainment com-

Their secret: offering an

sixth year since privatisation that : the companies had paid virtually no mainstream corporation the water industry just goes on and on," he added. "This all flows from the personal actions taken by John Major. He was the Chancellor who saw to it that when they were privatised the water companies had £5bn of debts owed to the taxpayer written off. At the same time he also gave the newly privatised companies a further £1.5bn Mr Dobson said this was the cash gift from the taxpayer."

If that was not enough, he gave them tax breaks on £7.7bn of investment made at a time when the industry was still publicly owned, Mr Dobson added.

According to Labour, the only two companies which have paid corporation tax since privatisation are Northumbrian Water and South West Water with payments totalling £16m. However, they did not break down how much of this was advance corporation tax which could be offset at a later date against future tax bills.



Frank Dobson: Water firms given £1\_5bn from taxpayers

# Two Brits deliver the goods with US courier service



David Usborne New York

At first sight, Hugh FitzWilliam-Lay easily fits the cliché of the typical Brit import in New York. He is tall and good looking and has the kind of accent that Americans fall for. But when asked at parties about his pro-fession. Hugh's line departs from the stereotype. Neither writer nor banker, he is in fact a postman.

The description is accurate if hardly adequate. In fact, Mr FitzWilliam-Lay is president of a courier business that was recently listed as one of America's fastest-growing private hattan Malia.

companies by Inc Magazine. They make a Called Citipost, it will soon be in 16 US cities and recently opened shop in London.

Citipost is run jointly out of

Lay and his partner and the bling into the delivery industry company's chief executive offiafter a spell as a motorcycle cer and founder, Richard Traycourier in London. ford, another Brit. Launched in Mr FitzWilliam-Lay, 31, by contrast, studied computer sci-ences at Edinburgh University 1991 with an investment of \$19,500, its revenue this year should exceed \$18m - that repand came to New York, via a brief modelling stint in Japan, resents growth over five years to help the Economist magazine of 1.664 per cent.

This being New York, how-ever, Citipost's journey has not been without bumps. There was the embarrassment of one of their employees being nabbed two years ago as the mastermind of a \$1.9m Tiffany's diamond heist. Much more awkward, however, have been their brushes with the Man-

They make an intriguing pair. "Ex-greasy rocker meets Toff," suggests Mr Trayford, 33, who, after being expelled from Devizes Comprehensive, was a a modest West Manhattan bass guitarist with aspirations to warehouse by Mr FitzWilliam- rock'n roll fame before stum-

The principle distinction of company hopes to tap into the In the two weeks before the po-Citiposi, however, is its low-low prices. Rather than attempting to deliver everywhere, like the US Mail or the mega-courier companies like Federal Express, Citipost operates exclusively between cities and between business districts with-in those cities. "We don't do the

farms or the suburbs." Mr FitzWilliam-Lay explains. Nor does Citipost have huge flects of lorries and aircraft. Parked against the wall of their Manhattan warehouse are rows of tri-carts - small metal trol-lies that Citipost employees haul around the sidewalks of Manhattan. For inter-city and international carriage com-

mercial airlines do the work. The strategy now is breakneck growth. By reaching ahroad - aside from London. Citipost is in Frankfurt and will soon be in Hong Kong - the

flood of exempt mail coming into America. Incredibly, 17 per cent of all business-to-business mail entering the US from abroad is bound for addresses on Manhattan Island. New clients even include some monopoly state mail services, in-cluding those of Denmark and Switzerland.

"We intend to spread all over Europe and to key points in Asia, says Mr Trayford. "Once you decide to keep growing you cannot just stop. Hopefully we will become big enough that the reward will be at the end of the rainbow." The implied treasure will be the proceeds of eventu-

ally going public.
The two Brits laugh now about the diamond heist. It was perpetrated by one of their couriers who happened to have the flagship Tiffany's store on there is absolute corruption Fifth Avenue on his daily route. going on."

lice finally caught up with him, he continued making his daily calls at the shop.
On their tangles with the

more circumspect. They suspect, however, that their main com-petition in New York, three other exempt-mail courier companies, are all fronts for the Cin Edn. - E.

tale the

diand-man and the state of the

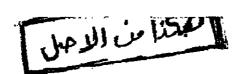
ta a rand...

Mafia, they are, not surprisingly.

feared Lucchese organised But while they have been intimidated verbally, no physical

harm has come either to themselves or the business The only reason they ignore us is that with their courier

companies they want to main tain a public appearance of propriety and they have to turn over their cash," Mr Trayford ventures. The atmosphere in the industry, though, is that



Bottom 20 losers in 1996

Clubpartners

Lionheart

**Omnimedia** 

Jacques Vert

Yorkshire Fd

Electrophoretics

Creightons Nat

Alpha Omikom

Forward Tech

Hansom -

Applied Dis

ciscing price

2.5p

Make your mind up time: The Independent offers readers a selection of shares ranging from blue chips to the more speculative

# Blacks Leisure grabs gold in a sporting year

Never before has there been such a sporty touch to the yearly winners and losers share tables. Leading the top 20 is Blacks Leisure, the leisure wear retailer. Three football clubs feature in the winners' table; so does Hay & Robertson, which has a more than passing interest in the sports world.

And, as if to prove the allround adaptability of the stock market's new breed of sporting companies, the leader of the bedraggled losers is a golfing group, Clubpartners Interna-

Blacks represents an amazing turnaround. Once beset by boardroom battles and seemingly going nowhere, the company still had an appalling record only a few years ago. Acquisitions had been disastrous; profits had disappeared and the dividend cut.

But, helped by the increasing type surrounding professional football, a greater pursuit of keeping fit and the great outdoors, the company, under the replica kits were throwing at sure direction of Simon Bent- what television's football experts dereard of the winners' table at

ley, has prospered. Profits last year were below the £3.7m peak achieved in 1992 Still, the record should be shattered this year with hopes growing that profits could touch £7m.

The footballing hat-trick is Celtic, Caspian (Leeds Utd) and Manchester Utd. "ManU" of course, kicked off the stock market's interest in soccer skills. Before the Premiership was formed, before the great replica kit bonanza had taken off and even before BSkyB was pouring money into the top clubs, the famous Red Devils slipped relatively quietly on to the market.

Such was the lack of investor enthusiasm that the shares went to a discount to the issue price and ManU seemed destined to limp along in the market's lower Slowly investors, other than

those who also supported Manchester Utd and had held shares since the flotation, scented the huge profits which television coverage, sponsorships and



Derek Pain, Stock Market Reporter of the Year, reviews the leading share price winners and the heaviest losers of 1996

like to call "a funny old game". From a 52.6p low in 1992 the shares have romped to a 667.5p high; a performance not very different from Blacks Leisure. Celtic, as part of a cash-rais-

ing exercise, arrived on the market in the summer of 1995; Caspian is, in effect, a reverse takeover. In February it was a little media group with its shares at 8.5p. Then City whizz-kid Chris Akers, who had earlier masterminded the market début of Freepages through a reverse deal, arrived and seemed immediately to hunt for football status. Caspian was linked with a number of leading clubs eventually capturing Leeds after clashing with at least one of the incumbent directors. Hay & Robertson, on the un-

number 20, is another struggler which has scored from the leisure wear craze. It moved into profits last year and last month announced a marketing deal with high-profile Rund Gullit,

Chelsea's manager. To counter arguments the market has gone soccer crazy the rest of the winners have little to do with sport. And many of them are small groups where modest investment interest can produce significant price movements. The losers, too, tend to inhabit the lower reaches of the

Runner-up Jarvis is a construction group which has soared on its acquisition of one of the British Rail maintenance operations. Occasional takeover

talk has also helped.

cruitment are good examples of the power of the tiddler when it comes to drawing up yearly share performance tables.

Both have modest share cap-

حكاب الاعل

itals and low capitalisations BBB is valued at £6.4m and Abacus at £4.7m. The markets in their shares is obviously exceedingly tight. BBB is a computer company which moved back into profits last year. Chairman Philip O'Donnell has a controlling interest and three other shareholders account for near-19 per cent of the capital.

Cairn Energy and British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate are at the forefront of the strength of the oil sector and Surrey Free Inns leads the inform managed pub contingent. Clubpartners, heading the

motley crew of losers, has bunkered itself with a sad run of losses. Yet hope springs eternal at its own 19th hole. The shares, it is true, have collapsed 28.5p over the year to stand at 2.5p. Yet they should be even lower. The company warned on BBB Design and Abacus Re- several occasions it was in ne-

Top 20 w	inners in	1996
	1996	Year's %
	closing price	: Gain
Blacks Leisure	-386.5a -	680
Jarvis -	142.5p	506
Jarvis Celtic RRR Design	£385	:488
888 Design	77.50	417
Abacus Rec	84.50	369
		367
Casplan	7p 45p	338
Emerald En	40	300
Cairo En	416p	268
Roxsour	8p	256
Goodwin	130p	242
Man Utd.	667.5p	241
Tex	133.5p	226
British Borneo	810p	224
TDS Circuits	- 21p	223
Surrey rise inns.	410P	220
Fairbriar DBS	18.5p	208
	487.5p	205
Hay & Robertson	132.50	201

expected developments the gotiations which could lead to an offer well below the market shares are hugely overvalued price. Eventually it said the bid would come in the "region another of the market's little mysteries. of 1p". So unless there are un-

Pan Andean Res

Memory Corporation is a touched 555p.

of defective computer chips slumped 363.5p to 60p last

78

77

# Something old and something new from City professionals

Most of the 10 fund managers of genuinely advanced tech- more corporate activity in the more flexible dosing, which ing to be easy. I expect to see a who tipped shares for us last year have emerged with reputations intact. Indeed the 22 per cent overall gain registered by their selections over the past year is close to double the 11.6 per cent gain recorded by the market over the same period.

As ever, there were widely varying performances. Bernard Clark at the renamed Hill Samuel Asset Management emerges as the clear winner with Sema, the computer services group, which more than doubled. After being runner-up last time he receives a welldeserved bottle of fizzy drink.

Also worthy of more than aonourable mention is Colin high enough for the present, but McLean of Scottish Value Management, who justified his faith in recovery stocks by tipping Scholl. As predicted, new management has done wonders for the shares, which are up over 50 per cent on the year.

Philip Winston of BZWIM. part of the mighty Barclays empire, also proved a consistent outperformer. His choice of Trinity International, the rapidly-expanding newspaper group, showed a healthy 35 per cent gain although that was not enough for him to retain last year's top spot.

At the other end of the scale, the failure, again, of the congiomerate sector to spark into life proved the undoing of Mike Grimble of Norwich Union, who tipped BTR, and Vanessa James of Legal & General.

whose choice was Tomkins. They are joined in this year's more limited entry by some other old faces, along with a smattering of new competitors.

Bernard Clark The UK equity market is short

Sem	ia Group
	e price, peace
1100	
1000	
900	5-A-64-B
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700	
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JAN J F M	AMJJASOND

nology share issues, so there coming year. were few surprises amongst the experts when shares in nuclear specialists AEA Technology quickly raced up from their It is time to relight that fire at 280p flotation price last year to nuclear power stations are sioning old and obsolete plants, particularly overseas. Even so, the company expects future growth will come mainly from non-nuclear products and outsourcing services to industry, ranging from robots to software. The current share price seems of the company into two conby the end of 1997 margins should be moving up rapidly as the effect of re-structuring fades. By then, a market capibe more appropriate, giving a price target of 550p.

Scottish Value Management

With many of 1996's trends set to continue in the coming year, I believe growth businesses will still be at a premium. My share for 1997 - Caim Energy, the oil and gas exploration and production company - has already been a winner over the past 12 months. However, while it starts 1997 at higher levels, good underlying asset progress means that the shares are still cheap.
Drilling success in 1996 has

turned Cairn into a substantial independent oil company. Its recent takeover of Command Petroleum of Australia, which operates in India, adds to its attractions. Capitalised at around £500m, with the shares at 417p, Cairn could even attract a bid itself, in a sector where I expect product differentiation and

Arjo Wiggins

GEC

Torritins

Julian Fosh Scottish Amicable

British Gas. Following a near 50 the current 396p. No further per cent underperformance over the last two years, the three planned for the UK, but there key issues which have dogged will still be considerable work the company during this period to be done on de-commis- are close to resolution. Firstly, the recent deal with BP to settle some of BG's loss-making "take-or-pay" contracts is an exlishing a base level for the liabilities at around £2bn. Secondly, February's division

> stituent parts should enable the undervaluation of the oil exploration division, which is as big as Lasmo and Enterprise combined, to be corrected. Finally, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation into the last regulatory review should be resolved by 13 April. A favourable outcome could theoretically be worth £2bn to British Gas. The shares at 224.5p are a buy for the brave.

Justin Seager

Fund managers

How they performed in 1996

722.5p

+4.3%

+7.6%

+54%

+102%

-4.8%

178p

355p

Kleinwort Benson SkyePharma, the new vehicle of Ian Gowrie-Smith of Medeva fame, is a small company with expertise in drug delivery technology. As a result, it offers the growth potential of a pharmacentical company, with lower risk, as the customers are the drug companies which have already taken the commercial risk of identifying new compounds. Skye currently has relationships with more than a dozen international drugs companies, including SmithKline, Roche, Eli Lilly and Bristol Myers. Its clients benefit from

also attracts doctors and patients. In return Skye receives royalty payments of 3-5 per cent. The shares are currently 73.5p.

Mike Grimble Norwich Union

Where return goes, so does risk. What promised to be a good year for equity and bond markets was put into jeopardy in December 1996 as equity investors found that high returns bring high risks. However, the bulls won in the end.

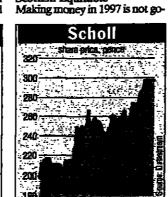
We expect more volatility in the equity and bond markets in 1997. Investors who are less risk tolerant might consider commercial property, through the medium of an authorised property unit trust, such as Barclays above average yield. It is a turn-Unicorn, recently recorded at a around story with a danger that mid-price of 257.6p.

George Simpson has only been

Robert Talbut Royal Sun Alliance IM

managing director at GEC for a few weeks but he has realised that urgent action is needed. His four main aims are to improve the strategic focus, address the cash mountain, change to a more customer-facing culture and concentrate the development spend to improve the growth rate. The first two objectives should bring immediate benefits. Despite the chal-lenge of how to deal with the consolidation of the European defence industry, the bull case for GEC lies in this corporate restructuring. All this upside can be bought for a market rating at the recent price of 382p, making the stock a convincing buy.

Scottish Equitable



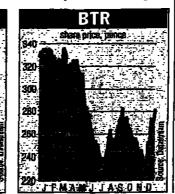
lot of volatility with the impending election and decisions about EMU later in the year. However, the stock market background is really quite good and I am going for Sainsbury, currently out of favour with just about everyone. Profit forecasts have been cut again since the interims in November and

the share price has performed very poorly in the last few years. It used to be thought of as the Rolls-Royce of the food retail industry, but now everyone thinks it has lost its way. Well, I like Sainsbury. The

underlying consumer climate is good and the do-it-yourself business should do well next year. The share price discounts a lot of bad news and gives an they will continue to lose market share, but I think it is basically a good operation and they will get it right again. Worth buy ing at 388p.

Vanessa James Legal & General

The case for British Aerospace rests both on fundamentals and its pivotal position at the heart of the possible rationalisation of the European defence industry. The company has shown itself able to control its finances and there are few concerns over its dependence on the Saudi Al Yamamah contract. The company has established itself as a system integrator and prime contractor with excellent profits and dividend growth potential. Meanwhile, the recent McDonnell Douglas-Boeing merger has removed one commercial aircraft manufacturer. The airlines will now have a strong incentive to support a viable competitor to Boeing.



# Goodies in store from retailers but biggest rewards favour bold

Last year looked a tough one for tipsters, but as it turned out The Independent's selections respeciably outpaced the market's 11.6 per cent rise.

The prospects for the next 12 months are more difficult to divine than the last, with a general election looming and Wall Street looking ever-more precarious after the mountainous heights scaled by US equities in

year provide a wide spread of large capitalisation stocks to provide a firm base for the portfolio, with a liberal sprinkling of recovery and speculative stocks to add, we hope, sparkle.

Retailing is a sector which should do well in the expected consumer boom in 1997. It is the year when Sears, the slumbering giant of the industry, must come to life. If it doesn't then it will be revamped, taken over or even broken up. Assets are more than 120p a share with Selfridges probably worth 45p. The shares have enjoyed a festive rally. At 95p they are selling at 18 times prospective earnings.

Storehouse shares have had a torrid time in recent months as the market has become worried about its flat sales and profits that appear to be driven by cost-cutting. Shares in the BhS and Mothercare group have plunged from 361p in April to 258p at the year's close but they now look oversold. They trade on a forward rating of just 12, a substantial discount to the sector which seems an anomaly.

ers comes Allders. Its department stores are not exactly sexy but are starting to look interesting as an investment. The duty-free business has gone and recent sales growth at the 30 department stores has been strong. There is also the prospect of sales growth at the recently purchased Owen Owen stores. The shares have taken a tumble this year but at 140p now

trade on a very lowly rating.

Pearson, the media and financial services conglomerate, will be in the news in 1997. either when it announces a valne-building restructuring or finds itself on the receiving end of a hostile bid. Either way,

and the current price of 749.5p. while historically high, still leaves room for growth. The real money for investors

a 20 per cent stake in Scottish

Television and a controlling

share (soon to be 100 per cent)

in UK Gold and UK Living.

which are worth £200m be-

tween them. Flextech could

emerge as the digital champion,

emulating the spectacular rise of BSkyB. The shares at 677.5p

In the same vein is Pace Mi-

cro Technology. With the way now clear for the launch of up

which should do well out of new

television technology, having

positioned itself to exploit the

are worth a punt.

riskier parts of the market. Some investors might be put off by the fact that Flextech, which owns pay-TV channels such as UK Gold and Bravo, has never made a profit, and yet has seen its market capitalisation soar to an impressive £750m. Profits are in sight, however, None the less, our tips for this thanks to a joint venture with

the BBC to launch new channels for digital. The new business, based on the BBC's huge programming library, will build in the Flextech stable, including

to 200 digital television channels in the UK by late 1997, BSkyB is expected to give Pace the goahead to manufacture over 100,000 set-top boxes. Pace, one of four preferred bidders, will be pushed to meet BSkyB's tight deadline to supply the decoders, but the company's extensive experience of international digital television markets should stand it in good stead. The shares are not cheap at Finally in this trio of retail-230.5p, but could be rewarding. Caspian is another company

potential goldmine of pay-per-view football, which could be introduced as early as next season. After buying Premier League is more likely to be made in the club Leeds United in the summer, Caspian has assembled a formidable management team, including former Manchester

United finance director Robin Launders as chief executive of the Elland Road club. Leeds will never match the lure of Manchester United's brand name but the shares at 46p have much further to go despite almost doubling in the last couple of months The unrealised potential in

Ascot Holdings is not immediately obvious. As Control Securities, it was the vehicle for iailed businessman Nazmu Virani and, since a £287m takeover in the summer, is now the owner of Suter, the conglomerate made famous by the controversial share-dealings of its former chairman. David Abell. But it is now in the hands of a new management team led by Howard Dyer. Turning round Ascot has proved a struggle since he took over the reins over four years ago, but there are some decent engineering and chemicals businesses waiting to emerge from Suter. Worth backing the man, even if the shares at 285p may

take a while to respond. Finally, British Taxpayers Association could prove an outrageous but rewarding flutter. It is traded on Ofex and profits remain an ambition. Idea is to cash in on the new self-assessment tax regime. The company's roots go back to the British Taxpayers Association started in 1919 to help ex-servicemen. The shares, expected to move to AIM, are 28p.

	City W			
How they performed in 1996				_
<del></del>	Tipped at	Price now	Gain/loss	_
Allied Domecq	525p	456.5p	-13%	
Caradon	195.5p	239p	+22%	i
Continental Foods	84p	108p*	+29%	
Field Group	327p	378.5p	+16%	횥
HEIsdown	169p	200p	+18%	뒭
Laporte	574p	683.5p	+1.4%	Takeover price
Pet City	382p	594p*		严
Stakis	80.5p	97.5p	+21%	1
Tomkins	282p	268.5p	-4.8%	- 1
Trocadero	46p	<u>53p</u>	+15%	_
			116 NW	- 1

# Amber, 3, has a stab at outdoing the experts

old daughter of our Business done her proud and, cynics might add, cast some doubt on the worth of the City's highly paid fund-managers by handsomely beating the market with most of her selections.

Sadly, Florence's portfolio included one clanger. Powerhouse, formerly Com-tek Resources, was tipped at 2.5p but disappeared from investors' screens during the year when it was de-listed. As far as we are aware, the oil and gas tiddler is still active but with no public quote it is impossione to put a larvis (142.5p), McDonnell instruction on Florence's holding.

Assuming the worst – a 100 formation Systems (33p), Rox-Associates (7p).

A year ago we asked Florence per cent fall - the 10-stock Warner, four-and-a-half year portfolio ended the year 6.3 per and City Editor, to select 10 view-deeming Powerhouse to stocks at random by throwing a be worth what it was last Janudart into the shares page of a newspaper. Her portfolio has pressive 16.3 per cent rise in the Her other tips included Mir-

ror Group (+22%), Benson Crisps (+24%) and Next (+24.5%). This year we have abandoned the nursery for the playgroup

and called on the skewerjabbing prowess of Amber Stevenson, three-year old daughter of our City Editor. Unfazed by the rivalry between her daddy and Florence's, she boldly plumped for the following: Critchley Group (885p), T&N (173.5p),



skewer job on the City

spur (8p), Tesco (354.5p), Linden (164.5p), Lavendon (157.5p), Gartmore British Geared Income & Growth Trust units (246.5p) and Aukett

### long enough to convince everystop performing promptly. The O'Higgins Theory, a system of picking supposedly top-per-forming high yield shares, is a depressing case in point.

fund-manager called Michael O'Higgins, the theory is simplicity itself. Investors, it says, should buy high-yielding shares because their low share prices relative to the income stream they generate is often an indication that the market has unfairly downgraded them. The other advantage of high-

yielders stems from the fact that dividend income has over time represented a large part of the cumulative total return from equities. A high yield should, in theory, give investments an immediate headstart.

# An O'Higgins portfolio for contrarians

one they have found a sure way cause he believes large shares nual return (with dividends to stock market riches, only to are less likely to fail totally. Devised by an American

> The success of the system The O'Higgins theory – O'Dear

> > Hanson\*

British Steel

National Grid

British Gas

To narrow the field of po-tential investments, Mr O'Hig-

### Investment theories have an gins uses a couple of selection ample, portfolios chosen on annoying habit of working just screens. He chooses shares only from the largest blue chips be-

From the highest yielding blue chips he selects those with the lowest share prices. He picks those on the basis that they are more likely to be relatively smaller companies and better able to grow meaningfully.

during the 1970s and 1980s was remarkable given how clumsy it appears at first sight. duced such rich pickings. In In the 18 years to 1991, for ex-

the O'Higgins criteria would have generated a compound anreinvested) of 19.4 per cent compared with 10.4 per cent for the Dow Jones index. To put that in perspective, \$10,000 invested in the O'Higgins portfolios would have grown to almost \$250,000 while investing in a Dow tracker fund would have turned the same amount

Sadly, the 1990s have not pro-

-1%

-2%

into just \$60,000.

81.5p

160.5p

195.5p

224.5p

Last year's selection

Price end 95

162.75p

199.5p

254D

version of the theory increased by 21 per cent on average, a fore. With many companies fraction better than the market's 20 per cent rise that year. Last year, as the table shows however, the system was a disaster, registering an average fall of over 7 per cent against the market's rise of 10 per cent plus. There are several possible

shares chosen with an adapted

reasons for this underperformance but the most important would appear to be the preponderance of utilities thrown up by the system. In the run-up to a probable Labour election

British Gas

British Steel

National Grid

Scottish Power

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226p	P&
162p	hig
190p	cau
181.5p	sha
101.0p	svst

343.50

when a share (or a system) is friendless it is usually a good time to take the contrary view. For those who fancy that time has come we have drawn up another O'Higgins portfolio. British Gas has had a dread-1996 but could perform betafter demerger. Imperial pacco remains a persistent bid rget in the City rumour mill. o shares which could do well s year, Allied Domecq and

windfall taxes have been to the

paying special dividends or stag-

ing share buy-backs there has

also been less demand for in-

come from institutions, which

has helped keep high-yielders in

Things change, however, and

the dog-house.

O, were knocked out of the h-yielding shortlist of 10 beise of their relatively high are prices. If you believe in the stem, however, you have to trust it implicitly. Better luck this

# **Pennar Davies**

Pennar Davies was among the most scholarly, religious, and passionate men to have written in the Welsh language during the 20th century. A prolific writer, he combined in his poetry and prose a polymathic command of language, theology, and psychology with a per-sonal tenderness rooted in his Christian faith, which was by turns mystical and practical in its concern for human frailty and

Whether in his delicately wrought love-poems or in his more contemplative novels and spiritual journals, he laid great emphasis on both eros and agape, endeavouring always to balance them in a richly complex whole by means of myth. symbol, and a sometimes labyrinthine erudition which few of his readers were able to

There is much self-analysis in his prose works, often of an uncompromising kind and usualilluminative of the cultivated Christian mind under pressure from the barbarities of the modern world but ultimately finding equilibrium in the affirmation of traditional certainties,

William Thomas Davies was born, a miner's son, at Mountain Ash in the Cynon Valley in the old county of Glamorgan, in 1911. He took the name Pennar from Aberpennar, by which the town is known in Welsh, as a sign of his identification with the native culture of Wales. Using the pseudonym Davies Aberpennar, he wrote poems in both Welsh and English up to about 1948 but thereafter he chose Welsh, which he had learnt as a young man, as penetrate without difficulty. the medium for almost all his

literary work. He was deeply committed to the Welsh language and it, together with his bedrock of his nationalism. During the 1970s, together with two other academics. Ned Thomas and Meredydd Evans, he cut off the power at Pencarreg television transmitter in a campaign for an improved Welsh-language service which led to the establishment in 1982 of S4C, the fourth channel which now broadcasts

programmes in Welsh. Left-wing and pacifist in polities, he stood as Plaid Cymru candidate in the steel town of Lianelli at the General Elections of 1964 and 1966. He was an effective public speaker, though not averse to the loftier manner which his audiences and congregations came to expect of him as a leader of Welsh reli-

gious and political life. His winning of the Llanelli seat would have raised the intellectual debate in Wales by several notches above what it was during the 1960s, but it was not to be: he attracted only the more radical sections of the chapel vote and made little dent in the Labour

After a brilliant career at Uni-

versity College, Cardiff, where he graduated in Latin in 1932 and in English the year follow-ing, he went on to Balliol and Mansfield Colleges, Oxford, and then to Yale University. where he took his doctorate in 1943. In that year he married Rosemarie Woolff, a refugee from Nazi Germany, who promptly learnt Welsh and made it the language of their home. During the 1940s he was a member of the Cadwgan Group, a small circle of intel-

the Rhondda home of J. Gwyn Griffiths, later Professor of Classics and Egyptology at University College, Swansea.

Davies spent three years as a minister with the Independents in Cardiff before his appointment in 1946 as Professor of Church History at Bala-Bangor Theological College, a bas-tion of the Congregationalist cause in Wales. In 1952 he became Principal of the Memorial College at Brecon, a post in which he remained, after the college's removal to Swansea in 1959, until his retirement in

Pennar Davies wrote in a variety of literary and scholarly modes, He published, besides a barrage of pamphlets, six voiumes of verse, a collection of short stories, six novels, and several works of a theological na-

lectuals who used to meet at ture, of which Y Brenin Alltud the Rhondda home of J. Gwyn ("The Exiled King", 1974), a study of Christ's practical goodness, is perhaps the most mature and rewarding. Some of his poems, which refer as often to Newton and Einstein as to the heroes of the Weish pantheon, are breathtaking attempts at reconciling the

discoveries of science with

religious belief. Among the figures from Welsh history to have captured his imagination was John Penry, the Puritan pamphleteer, executed in 1593 on suspicion of being the Martin Marprelate who had attacked the institution of episcopacy and lampooned the Church of England.

wide culture and literary gifts, together with a bibliography of his publications, is to be found in the Festschrift published un-

der the editorship of Dewi Eurig Davies in 1981.

There was something enigmatic in Pennar Davies's personality which some found disconcerting, especially those who saw in him walking proof of the veracity of Benjamin Jowett's boast that the mark of a Balliol man is that he is able to excel so effortlessly. Tall, broad-shouldered, handsome, he might have seemed to many the very type of a muscular Christian, but his beatific smile hinted at a deeper sensibility that was preoccupied, in everything be did, with the rev-

elation of the numinous in hu-

mankind. For myself, I always found Some measure of Davies's him extremely good company, ide culture and literary gifts, not least during a trip to Finland in 1977, when, on midsummer's eve, we found ourselves sitting on an island beach to-

gether as the sun dipped, but never sank, below the horizon. i shall always remember how Davies was much taken with the metaphysical implications of the midnight sun, relishing the thought that, albeit temporarily, darkness had been banished from the world.

Meic Stephens

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RACING RESU

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William Thomas (Pennar) Davies, writer and theologian: born Mountain Ash, Glamorgan 12 November 1911; Professor of Church History, Bala-Bangor Theological College 1946-50; Professor of Church History, Memorial College, Brecon 1950-59, Principal 1952-59; Principal and Professor of Church History, Memorial College, Swansea 1959-81; married 1943 Rosemarie Woolff (four sons, one daughter); died Swansea 29 December 1996.

### Joan Osiakowski

Joan Osiakowski is probably best remembered by her penname Joan O'Connor, which she adopted in 1950 as a

scriptwriter for the BBC.

My first meeting with her in the flesh, as opposed to over the airwaves, was unpropitious. In 1975 my family and I moved to Hampstead in north London and when, on our first morning, I looked out of the window, I saw a respectable elderly lady picking our roses. With all the possessiveness of a proud new house owner I sallied forth to be instantly disarmed by Joan, who had tended the garden for the previous owner and was oblivious of the fact that we had moved in. She was tall and distinguished with beautiful bone structure and had the air of a grande dame, but her somewhat imperious manner was softened by a beguiling smile and an easy ability for self-

deprecation and mockery. Born Joan Druce in 1899, she had an unconventional and unsatisfactory childhood, which had probably belped set a lifelong pattern of self-reliance and fierce independence, regardless of accepted mores. She was brought up by a domineering grandmother who, disapproving of her feckless son's marriage to an Irish beauty, helped ensure its failure, and then took upon herself an unwelcome degree of responsibility for her granddaughter's Grandmother upbringing. Druce's brother, John Cross, wa married to George Eliot, and after "Great-aunt George" died he too moved in, although he always claimed to be "just visiting".

Joan was one of the earliest pupils at the newly established Downe House, along with Elizabeth Bowen and a smattering of Frys and Darwins - Downe House having been Charles Darwin's home. There were no rules, good behaviour being based on reason, and Rose Macaulay was one of the teachers. This idvllic interlude in an otherwise unhappy childhood was abruptly brought to an end when it was discovered that one of the founders was a friend of Joan's mother, so Joan was quickly transferred to Roedean. The shock of the new regime was drastic and she twice ran away before the Principal persuaded her that as she couldn't beat the system she might as well make the best of it and help

Roedean was followed by

Slade, presided over by the authoritarian and sardonic Professor Tonks, who was horrified at the enormous influx of young women coming to fill the vacancies created by the war. Ironically, it was a good period for the Slade, still basking in the glory of the achievements of its immediate pre-war students -Spencer, Gertler, Carrington, Nevinson and many others -and her fellow students included Winifred Knights, Mary At-tenborough, Eve Kirk and a selection of gifted young ladies.

However, after a year she moved on to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, followed by a couple of seasons at the Old Vic with Lilian Baylis, during which she time she had the privilege of turning the pages for the aged Ellen Terry at a public reading; an experience she never forgot. A cousin of her father's, Gwendoline Otter, enjoyed giving fashionable artistic parties in Chelsea at which young actresses were especially welcome, and it was at one of these she met her future

husband, Stanislas Osiakowski. In 1927, with a small legacy from an aunt, she and Osiakowski, with whom she was by now living, opened the Literary Book Company, in two rooms in Coptic Street, London. Following the pattern of avantgarde bookshops in Paris, and with the encouragement of Jim Ede, they began showing the and when, two years later, the moved into a building owned by the British Museum at 34 Bloomsbury Street they changed the name to the

Bloomsbury Gallery. Ben and Winifred Nicholson, Christopher Wood, David Jones, Barbara Hepworth and John Skeaping are just a few of the names associated with the gallery at this time, as are those of a number of the Slade girls including Mary Attenborough (Potter), who had her first oneman exhibition there in 1932. Following a successful Diaghiley exhibition in 1928, the Bloomsbury Gallery became also a favourite venue for the work of Russian and Eastern European artists. In 1937 the gallery made one further move, this time to South Molton Street, as the British Museum wished to redevelop the Bloomsbury Street site.

During the summer of 1939 Joan and her by now husband, plus their daughter Felicia. the liberating atmosphere of the went to Poland to visit his fam-



the last train before the outbreak of the Second World War. On their return they closed the gallery and moved to Kent, where they spent the war years; Joan taught French at Be- her daughter but sadly far from nenden and Stanislas proselytised on behalf of the Soviet Union. After the war, with gallery records and stock destroyed by a bomb and insufficient funds to start up again, they settled in Hampstead, where Joan made a new career, adapting literary classics for the BBC, writing scripts and co-authoring a cookery book, Food for Thought (1957), with Cecily Finn (Zimmerman).

She continued adapting novels until just short of her 90th birthday when her memory began to fade, but she would still reminisce happily over Sunday lunch about times past in Kent or Rutland, theatricals at

ily and were lucky to escape on supported CND and at election time proudly covered the windows of her pink cottage with Labour Party posters. Her final years were spent in

a home in Lincolnshire, close to

the interests and friends that

had been the focus of her life. Peyton Skipwith I first met Joan Osiakowski in 1937 and an instant liking developed based on our mutual inability to understand the rules of bridge, writes Cecily Zimmerman. The war separated our

lives until in 1950 we met again chance on Hampstead Heath, discovered we were neighbours, and had both been writing, so we decided to try our hand at television, which was just becoming popular.

To our amazement we sold our first attempt at a series to the BBC, but it was later Capesthorne Hall in Cheshire dropped due to our total ignoor trips to France. She main-rance of television techniques. tained a lively independence. However, we enjoyed writing so 30 December 1996.

much that for 10 happy and hilarious years we wrote afternoon plays, humorous series, a cookery book and ideas for two films. Osiakowski and Zimmerman seemed unsuitable names for a comedy duo so Joan became O'Connor and I reverted to my maiden name of

After 10 years Joan felt the need to develop on a more serious level and turned her talent to adapting classic novels for BBC radio. She would read a book five times, make notes, and then write her own version with no further reference to the original. Balzac, Mauriac and Rebecca West were among the authors she brought to radio with inimitable flair and honesty.

Joan Druce, gallery owner and writer: horn 22 March 1899; married Stanislas Osiakowski (deceased; one daughter); died Charry Willingham, Lincolnshire

### **Peter Dormer**

Peter Dormer was one of the most idiosyncratic and combative of contemporary writers on the visual arts in Britain. His writing and his exhibi-tions bristled with awkward

questions and odd perspectives. He condemned the complacent nature of British culture, at times with a loathing that recalled Jim Dixon's tirade in Kingsley Amis's novel Lucky Jim. But he also liked to defend what he called "middlebrow, middle-taste" England, speaking up for skills neglected by high culture, such as flower arranging, cooking, juggling, dentistry and DIY.

The meaning of skill and the purpose of the crafts were two themes that dominated his writings in the 1980s. He was at pains to emphasise what he believed to be the nature of the craft project: "a world of modest ideas with a straightforward vocabulary of familiar and functional forms". A trio of touring shows he organised for the Crafts Council, "A Closer Look At Rugs, Lettering and Wood" (all in 1983), suggested the strengths of his approach.

Each show was concerned to place the work of individuals in a social context. Thus lettering was seen in conjunction with architecture, furniture and wood in terms of techniques, design and batch production. The processes of designing and making were explored through examples of work in progress

tic exhibition panels. Ultimately, for Dormer, fine art and much craft were peripheral activities to be contrasted with the essential and valuable work of the designer. His best book, The Meanings of Modern Design (1990), took an original look at the complex relations designers have with consumers and at the symbolism, metaphor and morality of product styling. This was surely the only design survey to in-clude a disturbing photograph of an animal restrained for product testing - as an example of what Dormer called "invisible" or "below the line" design processes kept hidden from

consumers. The Art of the Maker (1994) was another very personal book, much inspired by the scientist and philosopher Michael Polyani's ideas about tacit or personal knowledge. Its core was experiential as Dormer grappled step by step with the skills of figurative clay modelling and calligraphy (characteristically eccentric choices) in an attempt to understand the special kind of undervalued knowledge involved in craft processes, in simultaneously designing and making.

Dormer spent his infancy in

an army hut adapted for emergency housing just after the Sec-ond World War. In 1955 his family moved to a meanly designed new council estate in north Cambridgeshire, a place he recalled as the antithesis of the post-war promise of a new Jerusalem. The beauties of true modernism came his way as a school boy when he attended Walter Gropius and E. Maxwell Fry's humanely laid out Impington Village College in Cambridgeshire. Jim Ede's gallery. Kettle's Yard, in Cambridge, also delighted him, though in later years Dormer had harsh things to say about Ede's selfconscious simplicity. Tasteful piles of pebbles on polished oak tables came to ring false as Dormer became increasingly fascinated and appalled by wellintentioned middle-class aesthetes and by the snug convolutions of the English

class system. Impington was followed by two years at art school at Bath Academy of Art, in Corsham, and then at Manchester, an experience that left him doubtful of the value of an institutionalised avant-garde. In particular, artists' claims to a special and innovation were seen by Dormer as "a self-delusion that leaves most other professions (especially those who take real risks of life, death and possible penury) bemused." In Dormer's view, contemporary artists were less competent than dentists and nurses, more pampered than their predecessors and, worst of all, outside the "real" economy and too ready to "seek the

apotheosis of uselessness".

Between 1969 and 1972 Dormer read Philosophy at Bristol University and then worked as a teacher and in local government. He also served as a Labour councillor in Ealing, west London, from 1978 to 1982, where he learnt some tough debating skills. In 1978 he had begun to write for An Monthly magazine, then under the inspired editorship of Peter Townsend. In the early 1980s he made the bold decision to become a full-time writer, contributing a regular "Artlobby" column to Art Monthly which December 1996.



Dormer: the art of the maker Photograph: Edward Barber

cast a witty, disenchanted eye over state funding for the arts, the burgeoning of fashionable theory and the uneasy rela-tionship between craft, design and architecture.

The objects that Dormer admired by the end of the 1980s were the visibly useful modest ones - thoughtfully designed ceramics and innovative furniture, both one-off pieces and prototypes for mass production. His flat in the Barbican, shared with Jane, his wife and dearest friend, revealed a humane and rational taste, tempered by a romantic sensitivity to materials and processes. In the last few weeks of his life he radiated a remarkable energy and optimism, planning books and projects and, as always, generously encouraging other writers and

researchers. For Dormer design and morality were inextricably linked. His seven published books (with two further books merous exhibition catalogues, talks and articles take the reader to the heart of the stormy design debates of the last 15 years.

Tanya Harrod

Peter Andrew Dormer, writer: born Fakenham, Norfolk I January 1949; Assistant Education Officer, London Borough of Havering 1976-79; Assistant to 🕻 Chief Education Officer, London Borough of Brent 1979-81: Councillor, Ealing Borough Council 1978-82: Reviews Editor, Crafts 1981-83; Co-director. Design Analysis International 1987-90; Visiting Fellow in the Critical Appreciation of the Applied Arts, University of East Anglia 1994-96; author of The New Jewelry 1985, The New Ceramics 1986. The New Furniture 1987, Meanings in Modern Design 1990, Design since 1945 1993, The Art of the Maker 1994. Jewelry of our Time (with Helen Drutt) 1995; married 1974 Jane Smith; died London 24

### Professor Leslie Kastner

Leslie Kastner was an academic of the old school who pursued his research interests because of their intrinsic worth, in contrast with the present tendency in universities to measure everything in terms of market value. In his 21 years with the Engineering Department at King's College London, he succeeded in strengthening, considerably, the esteem in which King's College engineers are held in the outside world. He secured the establishment of the pro-fessorships of Powder Technology and Internal Combustion Engineering and his own research attracted the conferment from his own university, Cambridge, of the degree of Doctor of Science in 1967.

Kastner was born in 1911, the son of Professor Leon E. Kastner, a professor of French cerned with the behaviour and Language and Literature at Manchester University. He was educated at Dreghorn Castle School, Midlothian, and at Highgate School, from where he went to Clare College, Cambridge, to read for the Mechanical Science Tripos.

On graduation, he joined Davies and Metcalfe, a company of locomotive engineers in Stockport, first as an apprentice and between 1934 and 1936 as a development engineer. In 1936 he was appointed to the Osborne Reynolds Research Fellowship at Manchester University, where in 1938 he be- Graduates' Prize of the Insticame a lecturer in Engineering

design of ejectors; steam or airdriven devices used for pumping air or other gases, thus creating a vacuum. This arose from his experience during his apprenticeship, which involved the manufacture of such devices. At Manchester, he came under the influence of Professor G.F. Mucklow and this inspired his interest in the thermodynamics and gas dy-namics of internal combustion engines, a research area which he subsequently continued at London. He was awarded the tution of Mechanical Engineers

and, in 1946, a senior lecturer. in 1939 and the Herbert Ack-His early research was con-royd Stuart Prize in 1943. He anical, Civil and Electrical was later, in 1956, also awarded the Dugald Clerk Prize.

In 1948 he moved to become Professor of Engineering at the University College of Swansca. becoming Head of the Combined Engineering Department in 1949. This coincided with the beginning of post-war expansion in universities and Swansea, under the direction of its newly appointed Principal J.S. (later Lord) Fulton, was determined to take full advantage of the opportunities available. Kastner's period at Swansea saw the commencement there of a building programme in engi-neering, resulting eventually in the creation of the three sepEngineering.

A similar situation applied at King's College London, where he was appointed Professor in 1955. Civil and Mechanical Engineering were combined and, in his first year, the college was concerned with the separation of the two disciplines. Kastner became Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Kastner became a member of the Council of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in 1955 and, thereafter, played a full part in the institution's main committees, with eight years on the important Membership Committee and even longer on the equally important Edu-

an of the British Museum, 1898;

cution Committee. He was also, over the years, a member of various committees of the Council of Engineering Institutions. At London University he took a full share as a member

of committees, including being Dean of the Faculty of Engineering of the university from 1974 to 1976. Within King's College he held the chairmanship of several major committees including that responsible for the supervision of the Macadam Building, a new wing to the college which provided muchneeded additional facilities for both students and Engineering. His contribution to college life was recognised by his being made a Fellow of the college in 1974 and his election as a Mem-

ber of the Corporation and of the Council of the college. Kastner was a very private

person, with a rather formal manner, who possessed a quiet sense of humour. He took up painting and spent much of his retirement producing watercolours. He also spent many hours walking on Dartmoor, where he had a cottage, and in Wales, with his wife Joyce, whom he married in 1958. However, a principal activity in his retirement was his research and subsequent biography of Augier de Busbecq, a Habs-burg ambassador of the 16th century. This gave him much enjoyment over a period of some 10 years, culminating with the treatise's being presented

to the Austrian Library in (-

Vienna.

Norman Borrett Leslie James Kasmer, engineer: born 10 December 1911; apprentice, Davies and Metcalfe Locomotive Engineers 1930-31, 1934-36, development engineer 1936-38; Osborne Reynolds Research Fellow, Mimchester University 1938, Lecturer in Engincering 1941-46, Smior Lecturer 1946-48: Professor of Engineering. University College of Swansea 1948-55: Professor of Mechanical Engineering, King's College Lon-don 1955-76 (Empitus); Dean of

the Faculty of Engineering, London University 1974-76; married

1958 Joyce Lillingston; died

Eastbourne 30 October 1996.

**Forthcoming** marriages

Mr M. C. Dautlich

The engagement is announced between Marc Christian, elder son of Mr Wilfried Dautlich, of Dulwich, and Mrs Ethel Ingegard Dautlich, of Brighton, and Elinor Katherine, nger daughter of Mr and Mrs younger caugmes .... \_ John Booth, of Wimbledon.

Mr David Bailey, photographer and film director, 59: Sir Richard Bayliss, former Physician to the Queen, 80; Simon Engineering, 85; Mr Christo-

oher Campbell, chairman, British Shipbuilders, 61; Admiral William J. Crowe, US ambassador, 72; The Duke of Devonshire, former Chan-cellor of Manchester University, 77; Professor Sir Kingsley Dunham, for-mer Director, Institute of Geological Sciences, 87; Mr David Graveney, cricketer, 43: Mr Walter Harrison, former MP, 76; Mr Algernon Heber-Percy, Lord-Lieutenant for Shrop-shire, 53; Mr Piers Merchant MP. 46; Sir Bruce Pattullo, Governor, Bank Births: John Manners, Marquis of of Scotland, 59; Sir Charles Reccu, former research and technology di-rector, ICI, 70; Mr Edmund de Rothschild, director, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 81; Air Marshal Sir tist, 1847; Count Folke Bernadotte Ernest Sidey, 84; Professor John Thomas, chemist, 71; Sir Keith

Thomas. President, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 64; Sir Michael Tippett, composer, 92; Dame Rachel Waterhouse, former chairman, Con-sumers' Association, 74; Mr Robert Wilmot, chairman, Wilmot Enter-prises Ltd, 52; The Right Rev Kenneth Woollcombe, Assistant Bishop.

### Anniversaries

Granby, military commander, 1721: James Wolfe, general, 1727; Karl Wil-helm Dindorf, classical scholar, 1802; Otakar Hostinsky, critic and libretaf Wisborg, soldier, humanitarian and diplemat, 1948: George Gilbert

Aimė Murray, classical scholar, 1866; Jimmy Nervo (James Holloway), comedian, 1897; Isaac Azimov, biochemist and science-fiction writer, 1920. Deaths: Ovid (Publius Ovidius Nasol, poet, 17: Philip V, King of France, 1322; Martin Schongauer or Schön, engraver and painter, 1491: Alexander Wedderburn, first Earl of Rosslyn, Lord Chancellor, 1805: Dr ason Good, physician and author, 1827; Barthold Georg Niebuhr. historian, 1831: Fabian Gottlieb ingshausen, polar explorer, 1852; Dr Andrew Ure, chemist. 1857: Friedrich Wilhelm IV, King of Prussia. 1861: Alexander William Kinglake, author, 1891; Sir George Biddell Airy, astronomer royal. 1892.

Biddell Airy, astronomer royal. 1892.

Sir Edward Augustus Bond, librari
Dutchman was first produced. Dresed Kingdom to replace silver, 1947;

Léon-Philippe Teisserenc de Bort, meteorologist, 1913; Carl Goldmark. composer, 1915; Sir Edward Burnett Tylor, anthropologist, 1917; Sabine Baring-Gould, clergyman and author. 1924: Eleanor Rathbone, social reformer, 1946; Edna May, actress, 1948; Dick Emery, comedian, 1983. On this day: the Spanish army recaptured Granada from the Moors, 1492; the Académie Française was established by Cardinal Richelieu, 1635; Georgia became the fourth of the United States, 1788; Britain joined the alliance with Russia and Turkey, 1799; Louis Daguerre took countries, 1937; King Zog of Albathe first photograph of the Moon, nia was deposed, 1946; cupro-

British Consul, 1868; the first municipal crematorium was opened at Hull, 1901; Port Arthur, Manchuria, was captured by the Japanese, 1905; the present building of the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London, opened 1905; the Japanese proclaimed Manchuria to be the puppet Republic of Manchukuo, 1932; a rising of anarchists and syndicalists took place in Barcelona, 1933; Britain and Italy (under Mussolini) signed an agreement on the status of Mediterranean

den 1843; Sir Robert Napier led a

British expedition to Abyssinia

(Ethiopia) to release the imprisoned

the first rocket to pass near the Moon
- the unmanned Russian Luna I - was launched, 1959; 66 people died after a barrier collapsed at Ibrox Park foot-ball ground, Glasgow, 1971. Today is the Feast Day of St Adalhard or Ade-lard, St Basil, St Caspar del Bufalo, St Gregory Nazianzen, St Macarius of Alexandria. St Munchin. St Scraphim of Sarov, St Vincentian and The Holy Name of Jesus.

### Lectures

National Gallery: Nicholas Ponny. "Paintings from Copenhagen (i): Mantegna, The Dead Christ", 1pm. British Museum: Delia Pemberton. "Avalokiteshvara, Bodhisattva of Compassion", 1,15pm,

Announcements for Gastic BIRTHS.
MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adaptions, Marriages, Dendit, Memorial services. Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be seat in writing to the Gastic Editor. The Independent, I Canadu Square, Canary Wharf, London El-15DL, telephoned to fir1-293 2011 (A-hour answering machine #17-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2012, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT etra). OTHER Gazette amouncements (notices, functions, Furthercoming macringes, Marriages) tions. For becoming marriages, functions. For becoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or funct) and are charged at £10 a flue, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone mumber.

Changing of the Guard The Household Caralry mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Genris, Unit, and the Queen's Guard, at Backingham Palett. 11.30am.

المحتاب الاجل

Henman ready

for Gustafsson

paid a high price for his sports-

manship when the Russian, An-

drei Cherkasov, beat him in the

second round of the Australian

Hardcourt Championships in

Adelaide. The unseeded Rafter

was one point away from level-

ling the match at one set all when

he overruled officials, saying

that his shot had landed out.

Because of his honesty, Rafter found himself 13-14

down in the second-set tie-

break, instead of being ahead

14-13. He lost the next point to

succumb to Cherkasov, a wild

"Very few guys would do what he did. Normally you

wouldn't say anything and just keep playing." Cherkasov said

of his opponent's gesture. In the next round, Cherkasov

will play Sweden's Mikael Till-

strom, who advanced without

hitting a ball after the Zim-

babwean Byron Black with-

drew with a stomach virus. In

the first round, Tillstrom beat

the world No 3, top seed and de-

fending champion, Yevgeny

Marc Rosset started the year

on a disappointing note when

he was forced to retire with a

back injury from the Hopman

Cup match against South Africa

to end the Swiss team's run in

the mixed-team event in Perth.

looked set to steer the second

Rosset, wearing a back brace,

Kafelnikov of Russia.

card entry, 6-2, 7-6.

The Australian Patrick Rafter seeds to a comfortable victory

in their Group B tie after the

teenager Martina Hingis had

easily disposed of Amanda Coetzer 6-1, 6-2 in under an hour.

The tall right-hander was in command of his match against

world No 10 Wayne Ferreira,

leading 6-0, 2-0 when he col-

lided with a ball girl at the net

and fell to the court clutching

his back. The Swiss continued

after a pain-killing injection and

chiropractic treatment but gri-

maced in agony at the change

of ends and was unable to go

Rosset's career has been

plagued by back injuries and he

further damaged muscles

around a lower disc during

practice on Saturday. He for-

feited his opening singles tie to Romania's Adrian Voinea on

Monday, but managed to play the mixed doubles with Hingis

to secure a 2-1 victory. "That's

certainly the only match I've

ever won where I walked off the

court after winning only one

game," Ferreira said. Rosset and

Hingis had to forfeit the mixed

and the United States are con-

testing Group A of the event

and Switzerland, Germany, Ro-

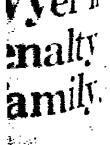
mania and South Africa are in

Group B. The South Africans

will qualify for the final if they

Croatia, France, Australia

doubles.







**K**. (11)

342

445 45

9 ± 30.0 °

# **4**2.2

### Robert Jones, the former Wales and Lions scrum-half, is back in

players

From Chris Belsom

Sir. There are still those in rug-

by union who find it difficult to

accept the new relationship

between rugby league and rug-by union and it is clear from his

of the joys of the 1996 season

terms with the so-called softies'

game" (Tigers thrive on team-

Anvone who cannot give

credit to the obvious talents

and contributions of the likes of Robinson and Paul (Bath).

Tirigamala (Wasps), Quinnell

Bateman (Richmond), Offiah

(Bedford) and Jonathan Davies (Cardiff) cannot expect

to have his opinion taken se-

to the "softies" game very

mentioned see so little of the

ball, as play is still, to a large

extent, determined by forward

control

The Bath/Wigan games (as

well as the Middlesex Sevens)

showed that the running, pass-

certainly faster. It is clearly in

the parts of the game absent from league, and only these

skills i.e. scrummaging, ruck-

SOUTHWELL

12.35: 1 ANONYM (J Brammin) 18-1; 2.
Eton Ledges 5-2; 3. See Devil 12-1; 11 ran.
5-4 far Hey Perman, 1. 1/2; (D Nichola, Thirst).
5-4 far Hey Perman, 1. 1/2; (D Nichola, Thirst).
5-4 far Hey Perman, 1. 1/2; (D Nichola, Thirst).
5-5-5, Thor: £76.80.
5-1.50. CSF: £6.55. Thor: £76.80.
5-1.50. Thore 15-1. Thore 15-1. Thore 15-1.
1.05: 1. PRESH FRUIT DALLY (Angela Galumon; 6-1; 2. Hever Golf Eagle 4-1; 3. Taning 12-1. 10 ran. 6-4 fav Prophets Horoday yer 12-1. 10 ran. 6-4 fav Prophets Horoday yer 12-1. 10 ran. 6-4 fav Prophets Horoday (Still, 12, 2) 11-50. £160. DF: £11.50. CSF: £5.00; £2.71.50.

THE INDEPENDENT

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 +

CHRIS BELSOM

Heimsley. York

work, 30 December).

**Rugby Union** 

DERRICK WHITE

reports from Doha, Qatar

The British No 1, Tim Henman,

made a confident start to 1997

yesterday when he coasted into the quarter-finals of the Qatar

Open in Doha. The 22-year-old beat Egypt's Tamer El Sawy

6-3, 6-2 to score his second re-

cent success over the player

Henman, who beat the Egyptian 6-7, 6-2, 6-2 in a dead

Davis Cup rubber on Wimble-

don grass last September, need-

ed just 31 minutes to take the

first set and was even more im-

pressive in the second. El Sawy

beat the third-seeded Dutch-

man Jan Siemerink, the world

No 15, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 in the first

round after battling through the

The result means that Hen-

man will improve his present

world ranking of 29 which is

based on a player's best 14

tournaments during the past 12

months. Henman, who took

just 65 minutes in all to over-

come El Sawy, will meet Swe-

den's Magnus Gustafsson in

the quarter-finals. The fifth-

seeded Gustafsson lost to Hen-

The Swede, who celebrates

his 30th birthday on Friday, beat

Slovakia's Dominik Hrbaty 6-2,

2-6, 6-4 in the second round.

man at Wimbledon.

qualifying competition.

ranked 149th in the world.

the Bristol side for their relegation confrontation at West Hardepool on Saturday, nine weeks after undergoing keyhole surgery for a prolapsed disc. Jones, who played in Bristol United's 27-25 defeat away to

Gloucester United on Saturday, returns to boost Bristol's hopes of avoiding the drop against a

sports letters

Unfair on League Tyne and Wear

writing that your correspon- Sunderland next season (New-dent, Chris Hewett, is one of castle divided as Toon army

them. His ungenerous and aim to camp on the moor, 20

for the "dyed in the wool union arch rivals will have a great new loyalists to see the rugby league stadium in 1997, which, if used

imports struggling to come to by Newcastle as well, would

riously. They have all adapted Sir. I was much amused by your

quickly and deserve great cred throwing at home matches by it. Sadly most of the players fans of Gillingham FC.

ing and handling skills are many clubs, including the likes

vastly superior in the league of Manchester City and

game which is more open and Brighton, would take serious is-

ing and mauling, where union tion" should contain telephone is superior. As far as tackling numbers. They should be sent

goes I think little needs to be to Sports Editor. The Inde-

RACING RESULTS

blinkered remark that it is one -December).

won just one of their nine matches this season.

West on their own pitch to get a couple of league points off a side in a similar position," Jones

ways been able to put out our strongest sides, due to a number of injuries, when competing with the top sides this season. We then started to fall behind but we know that with one good win that could all change West Hartlepool side who have dramatically.

From Robert Crowther

-Sir: I'm sure this will cause

Newcastle United fans to

splutter over their Sugar Puffs.

but perhaps they should con-

sider sharing grounds with

Their poorer cousins and

mean many more fans could

watch their team play until a

decision is made on their own

ROBERT CROWTHER

in the soup over

report of incidences of celery-

What most interested me

however was the statement by

something to identify the club

with... we're the only club to

have a connection with a vegetable". I think that the fans of

sue with this assertion.

DAVID EAGLE

Letters marked "For publica-

London E145DL. They may be

shortened for reasons of space.

1.35: 1. DAHEYAH (S Sanders) 7-1; 2. Assessme Venture 9-2; 3. Sweet Mate 7-1; 11. ren. 11-4 fav Deeply Vela (5th). 4, 7-. (B Smart, Lambourn). Tota: £9.50; £2.80, £2.10, £1.80. DF: £19.50. CSF: £38.05. Tho: £44.90.

2,05: 1. BALLARO LADY () Bramhili 6-1;

Edinburgh

a club official that "it's been

new stadium.

Witney, Oxon

vegetables

From David Eagle

"It is a great opportunity for

"Unfortunately we haven't al-

stand-off Paul Burke and the flanker David Corkery, on Ireland international duty against Italy at Lansdowne Road Craig Barrow comes into the side for Corkery, with Mark

Tainton playing alongside Jones. Kevin Maggs replaces Simon Martin at centre. There will be pitch inspection at lunchtime tomorrow before

Bristol fly to Teesside. Moseley, of the Second Division, have continued their recruitment campaign by signing

Bristol will be without the Turner from his home town club. Hereford.

Results, Digest, page 21 the Hopman Cup before Marc Rosset's mishap

The United States Eagles vesterday became the latest victims of the freezing weather. The tourists were due to kick off their four-match tour against Emerging Wales at Cardiff Arms Park, but not even the ground's undersoil heating system could overcome the

Jones to return in Bristol's relegation tussle

elements. The match was postponed be-

the former Newport and hours before kick-off, which Coventry scrum-half Richard now means the Americans will start against Neath on Saturday, weather permitting.

Martina Hingis powers on to victory for Switzerland against South Africa yesterday in

Leicester will make a round trip of nearly 200 miles to Worcester as they build up to Saturday's European Cup semifinal against Toulouse. The Welford Road pitch is covered in plastic sheeting and has a hot air tent suspended over it for further insurance against the severe weather. All other pitches in the area are snowbound.

club have an indoor pitch which Leicester will use.

The dispute between Bath and their coach, Brian Ashton, is expected to be resolved this week. Ashton is concerned that his coaching and selectorial role has been eroded under the managership of John Hall. He is also seeking a clearer definition of the chain of command at the Courage League club. Ashton has, by mutual consent, been on an extended holiday since last month's Pilkington cause of a frozen pitch two but the enterprising Worcester Cup tie against London Irish.

# **Ryder Cup** venue is defended

The billionaire owner of Valderrama, the Spanish club which stages the Ryder Cup in September, yesterday launched a scathing attack on critics of the

Jaime Ortiz Patino, the Valderrama president, also accused a former Ryder Cup captain of claiming that Spain cannot cope with golf's most important team event.

"Let us lay to rest once and for all the unpleasant, nay ridiculous, myth started by a former Ryder Cup captain who clearly should know better. Patino said. "The premise we've all heard it - Spain can't organise a raffle." Patino did not name the captain,

"How sad these nonsensical ideas should persist. Do we have to keep reminding everybody that the World Cup soccer and Expo '92 were enormously successful and that the Barcelona Olympics were the most successful Games ever held anywhere, before or since? No other country has hosted three such events in such a short time-span."

Patino disagreed with claims that the area will not be able to cope with 37,000 spectators and workers each day and that fans will not be able to see anything on the tree-lined course.

There are difficult areas, but grandstand viewing will be pro-vided for up to 11,000 spectators and for the first time at a golf tournament there will be three Jumbo screens enabling spectators to follow the action as it unfolds elsewhere

"We are working with the government agencies concerned to ensure smooth access to and from Valderrama. Where possible, visitors will be encouraged to use the Ryder Cup bus transportation system which is being set up to bring people from their hotels to the course. For those who have to use cars a 4.000space car park will be provided."

Fans will be staying over a wide area and many will be paying high prices for their accommodation. "Spain has a market economy and the government does not intervene or try to exert control over prices for hotels or other ac-

commodations," Patino said. "It is perfectly logical that hoteliers will be reluctant to tell their lifelong suppliers of clients. the tour operators, that for the week of the 22nd September they wish to withdraw their hotel from its annual obligation.

"For this reason, room allocations for the Ryder Cup have been hard to come by and the Ryder Cup Accommodation Bureau has contracted the QE2 and other ships." The floating village will be harboured near Gibraltar.

Patino dismissed criticism of the 17th hole, which Colin Montgomerie believes could turn the match into a lottery, a claim made by the European No I after his ball rolled off the green into a lake in the final round of the Volvo Masters in October.

"Ever since the radical change in 1993 we have introduced a series of modifications and improvements. Seve Ballesteros, who designed the hole. has been closely involved in this process, which continues today and will result in a further modified set-up for September.

"At the 1996 Volvo Masters the 17th yielded 62 birdies and four eagles. There were 51 bogeys, eight doubles and six others. The hole was played in par on 129 occasions. It was the ninth most difficult hole during the tournament."

Patino ended by stating stories of fake Ryder Cup tickets are already circulating. "When we transmitted this information to Ryder Cup Ltd they replied that the [real] tickets have not vet been printed. "Since access to the Ryder

Cup is strictly limited. Tickets should be purchased only from authorised sources."

# Hot spring beckons for cosseted Quest

RICHARD EDMONDSON

Rough Quest, runner-up in last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup and last week's King George VI Chase, will be asked to transport the sort of weight in the Grand National that would make an elephant groan. His trainer, Terry Casey, knows this and the gelding is in full preparation for the burden-carrying prospect. Every night he goes to bed swamped with rugs.
The monstrous Rough Quest

might look like a beast who could rip a dragon's head off, but is in fact a dainty flower whose muscles do not feel nice when it gets cold. Since he is already a Grand National winner. Casey is hapby to include his horse and covers him in matting and employs a heat lamp in his box to stop any chills getting on diddums' chest. plans to ensure there is live rac-

worth looking after. When he captured the Grand National ast year it was in a rare style for the race. He won it classily, vaulting with fluency and then employing the sort of sprint finish that only the linest athletes possess. It was with some relief then that Casey received his vehicle back from Kempton's King George VI Chase in one piece. The crusty Sunbury ground was most unacceptable for Rough Quest, who nevertheless picked up the sort of place prize-mon-

ters until well into next week as

snow and ice grips the country.

Channel 4 have contingency

Rough Quest is a property not pick up any acute physical dodgy signs and the following cally close to his nadir when he races come at a good time of the damage in the process. "He was stiff for a couple of days but RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Lily Jaques (Lingfield 1.20) NB: Captain Carat (Lingfield 2.50)

his legs were fine and that's the

main thing," Casey said yesterday. "Immediately after the race I went down to the stable yard and took his boots off to ey that could buy a flat and did feel his legs. There were no

All-weather racing looks likely ing to televise on Saturday. In producer, Andrew Franklin, to form the sole diet for punture the likely event that the meet-said: "The entire team will be

the likely event that the meet-

ing at Sandown is frozen off, the

all-weather Flat fixture at Ling-

Channel 4 Racing's executive

field will be covered instead.

but it appears he is not ready for equine SAGA holidays. It may even be that the old boy has yet to reach his peak. "I enjoy riding him out and I'm the trainer, so I get my choice," Casey said. "And I can tell you that when I sat on him at the be-

said: "The entire team will be

at Lingfield and we will present

The Morning Line from there.

It will be the first time we have

been to Lingfield since 1985."

day he trotted out sound."

ginning of this season, at the start of serious work, he felt better than at any time last year." Rough Quest was paradoxi-Armchair viewers to get taste of artificial surface

reckons he was rather sickly. Rough Quest may be rewhich is bewildering as the cently 11 (quite a lot of horses celebrated a birthday yesterday) gelding had only Imperial Call in front of him at the line. "When be went to Cheltenham he was certainly not right," the trainer said. "I told everyone

that beforehand and when I saddled him he didn't look at his best for me. He ran well enough but I think he can be a lot better than that. After the Gold Cup he did nothing but improve and he felt brilliant in the week before the National. Those two

Prospects for Lingfield's turf card tomorrow are grim. The track will be inspected at 9.30am today, as will the day's other turf venues, Sedgefield

and Towcester.

ran in the Gold Cup. Casev year for him when the weather s getting warmer and milder. Rough Quest will bound any foe that comes across his path in the next five weeks when he first tackles One Man, the King George winner, in the Pillar

Chase at Cheltenham, and then goes for the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown. The latter contest will also be a proving ground for Imperial Call if he successfully negotiates a race at the same course in 17 days' time. "He's grand and he's coming along very well," trainer Fergus Sutherland said of Imperial Call yesterday. "He just got a bit bruised like a fellow who has been in a rough game when he fell [at Punchestown on his seasonal debut]. You shouldn't worry about him because you'll see him again and the Hennessy will be the final preparation." Game on.

### LINGFIELD

HYPERION **1.20 Lily Jaques 1.50 Handra** 2.50 Captain Carat 3.20 Effervescence (nb) 3.50 YET AGAIN (nap) <u>2.20 Ben Gunn</u>

GOING: Standard.

STALLS: Im - outside: remainder - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low in sprints.

Equitrack surface; left-hand, sharp including course.

Course is south east of town on B2028. Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Mambers \$13, Family Enclosure \$9. CAR PARK: Club 53: remainder free.

1.20 STITCH IN TIME CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £2,778

44.90.
2.05: 1. BALLARD LADY (J Bramhal) 6-1;
2. Klipspinger 16-1; 3. 6f La High 5-2 fav.
10 ran. Hd. 1½, (J Warmengn, Malton), Totas
46.10: £2.00, £4.40, £1.10. De £30.90. CSF:
£72.27. Incast £212.46. The: £51.20. NR:
Listorireaconi, Sheshi Shahsi (6-1) was withdrawn not under orders, Rule 4 applies to all
bets, deduction 10p n: the pound.
2.40: 1. GOLDEN HADEER (A Clark) 7-2
fox; 2. Record Lower 11-1; 3. Mageter Foodbroker 10-1. 9 ran. 17. ½, (M Ryan, Newmarket), Totas £3.50; £1.40, £3.90, £3.10.
DF: £18.70, CSF: £37.35. Treast: £323.26.
Tro.: £74.50. Ino: £74.50.
3.10: 1. ROYAL ROULETTE (C Webb) 7-1; 3.10; 1. ROTAL RUBLE! IS (C. WESS) (\*1.)
2. Diamond Byre 3-1 for; 3. Head Girl 5-1.
10 ran. 1, 5. (S. Wessis, Newmarks!), Total
£10.30; £2.50, £1.60, £1.80, DF; £26.40.
CSF; £28.77. Tro: £35.20. NR: Hon Down.
3.40; 1. GOING FOR BRONE (S. Sanders.) 3.40: 1. GOING FOR BROKE (S Senders) 9-1: 2. Pinchinche 11-4; 3. Skeiten Sov-ereign 6-1. 6 ren. 13-8 for Fast Spun (4th). 4, 3. (P Hesiem, Maddeterm, Teter £9.30; £1.80, £2.10, DF: £28.40, CSF: £32.94. Jackpot: Not worr, £10, 792.49 carred for-ward to Lingfield today. Placepot: £93.70, Quadpot: £30.30. Place 8: £153.26. Place 6: £49.16.

# ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: G L Moore - 47 winners from 399 runners at a ratio of 11.8% giving a return to a 51 keel siske of 5.76.61; A Moore - 46 winners, 444 runners, 10.4%, 546.75; M Johnston - 42 winners, 251 runners, 16.7%, 5.47.72; R J O'Sqlifwan - 41 winners, 302 runners, 13.6%, 560.22; R Hannon - 35 winners, 311 runners, 11.3%, 5.416.70; R Alecharst - 29 winners, 207 runners, 14.3%, 5.27.63; S Dow - 20 winners, 315 runners, 8.31%, 5.48.17. \*\*LEADING JOCKER'S: L Dectori - 53 winners, 330 rides, 24.7%, +512.28; J Wenver - 72 winners, 352 rides, 20.5%, +52.15; R Cockrane - 64 winners, 352 rides, 17.6%, +529.20; T Quinn - 48 winners, 357 rides, 5.7%, -542.70; A Clark - 48 winners, 391 rides, 11%, 578.80; J Quinn - 41 winners, 602 rides, 6.8%, 5312.16. \*\*BLINKERERD FIRST TIME: Hasel (1.50), Mega Tid (3.50), Flow (visored, 3.50). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Effertweence (Ling 3.20) won at Langfield both last Thursday and last Monday. Yet Again (3.50) won at Langfield inst Monday. LONG-DESTANCE FUNNERS: Compact Disc (1.20) & Mirror Four Sport (1.30) sent 270 miles by M Johnston from Maidelsant, North Yorkshire; Ultra Beet (2.50), Bent From Sensey, North Yorkshire: Captain Carat (2.50) sent 254 miles by D Nicholls from Sensey, North Yorkshire:

RETTING: 11-4 Barawood Grackers, 5-1 Compact Disc, Misty Cay, 6-1 Verieder's Cfft, 7-1 Kingsdown Trbt, 8-1 Lily Jaques, Mistor Four Sport, 10-1 others 1996: Routantistins Chem 3 7 11 N Adams 6-4 (C L Moore) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

BARNWOOD CRACKERS gained consecutive withries at Yarmouth (seler) in June and Brighton (cleimer) the following month. The son of 89 My Chief has finished unplaced in his three outings since, including when one of the favourities and only severith of ten to Cee-N-K in a runsery over course and distance three weeks ago, but that was his first rece since the end of August and he can only have benefact from it. Gay Kellewiy's runner can return to winding form in this company despite giving away 9th and cowards all mand, Company Distance all to get of the mark at Southwell in November, with Racking Cerr bester more than pages learnts in sewerth. Mark barream leaf unable to offer any preference for Company FORM GUIDE made all to get off the mark at Southwell in November, with Racing Cerr besten more than seven lengths in seventh. Mark Johnston was unable to offer any explanation for Compact Discr's poor display when she finished lest of 11 to head Gif on the same track lest time - Racing Carr fourth - and she was beaten 14 lengths into fourth behind Pinchinch's there before that. She is best watched until she returns to form. The selection might have most have fourth from Mistay Cay, who landed a Brigation selfer and a Selection with the time that summer and should experciate the two-furions step up in distance effer being outpaced over six when fourth to five length scorer Just Loui here last time.

Selection: BARNWOOD CRACKERS

# 1.50 BAD PENNY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,518

 11 declared BETTING 11-4 Bundre, 7-2 Tanualek, 6-1 Hazel, 7-1 Nationi, 8-1 Supergold, 10-1 Nails Tells, 12-1 Navaji, 16-1 others 1996: Rambow Top 4 8 12 R Cochrane 6-1 NV Haggas) 10 ran Form Guide

ILANDRA has been competing in handlosps and had the third five lengths away when going down half a length to Globy in a 15-runner race over the Southwell mits in November, conceeding the minner Gib. She stayed on when fifth to much-improved That browning over concading the winner Glb. She stayed on when fifth to much-improved that incoming the same course and distance eight days later and indished a three-length fourth behind father ben at todays top two weeks ago. Nakhall made the frame four times in 1996 and, although without a race since a fourth to Nicola's Princess when slowly away at Wolverhampton.

Schoolbert mould provide most dayler.

2.20 MANY HANDS LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £2,507 

- 8 deciaved -TTENS: 2-1 Ben Gamn, 5-1 Amesome Power, 6-1 Kednick, Quiet Arch, 7-1 Double March, Our Eddie, 8-1 ethers 1996: Ruai Bid 8 9 1 Amanda Sandéra 6-1 filira N Macauleyi 9 ran

FORM GUIDE FORM GLIDE

BEN GLNN's last success was at Windsor in 1995 but he went under only a neck to Father

Den over course and distance before Christmas, and that form might gat a boost from Bandra in the 1.50. Anzant, a dual winner at this trip here in November, finished nine lengths admit in south in that event and is 5th worse in, Awageona Power seeks a tenth course and distance win but is no better off with Our Eddie, who finished six lengths in front of him when they were fourth and with (of 14) to Angle Face here in November. Our Eddie is no stranger to success found here with with five wins over the trip but he could do no better than stith, at a dozen lengths, behind Arzani here on his perultimate start. Kedwick gained his angle win to date in a poor race over course and distance two weeks ago, while Quiet Arch's only success so far came over a mile here last Linus, kedwick had Manabar ideati-Arch's only success so far came over a mile here last June, kedwick had Man heat there) four and a half lengths behind, but this rival has a 15th advantage and might we

7 TOO MANY COOKS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 6f

Ľ		Penalty Value £2,739
1		WRL DO (28) (Arthur E Smith) M Meadle 4 10 0
2	231403	ULTRA BEET (14) (C) (D) (Per Express Ltd) P Haston 5 9 9
3	104040-	LIFT BOY (USA) (23) (C) (D) (A Moore) A Moore 8 9 8
4	062004	CAPTAIN CARAT (5) (D) (V Creaves) D Nichols 6 9 5
5	403003	SHARP MAP (12) (CD) (Ales G M Terramenry R M Roser 7 9 3
6	534000	ASTRAL INVADER (6) (CD) (M S Saunders) M Saunders 5 8 6
7	1/32500-	MISS PROPOCIET (20) (C) (F O'Roune) Miss Gay Velleway 4 8 0 Angels Gualmore (
Ė	540040-	TACHYCARDIA (28) (D) (Christopher Lare) R D'Sullivan 5 7 10
ğ	000000	RAPER POINT (41) (b) (Brien Howarth C Hurar 6 7 10
•		-9 destared -
-	TTMC- 0.4	County Come 7-2 little Boar 5-1 Storm but, 6-1 Will Do. 8-1 Lift Box, Tactorias

FORM GUIDE

ULTRA BEET was in good form in early 1985, winning three times over five furious here as well as once at Wolverhammyton. Usua Beet found found lide tougher last year, but he ran some sound races including when winning a seller at Wolverhampton in August, He was having his first run in aimost four months and diffect from 7-1 to 12-1 before fireshing thard to Marpine Rose in a claimer there on December 19. Apprence-indeen then, he has Jason Weaver in the saddle today and will be difficult to beart if getting a good start from the regist draw. Capitalis Carast showed promises on his first start for David Nichols at Wolverhampton, where he was fourth to Amengon Lass. Today's earla futions as in his favour, but this sharp course and short straight are from ideal for him. Will Do, third at 33-1 to Pleading in a Salshum and the hash in harp, hed just one run on run afterwards, at Lecester in October, before making his handicap debut here last month. He was staying on In lifth to Scssor Ridge, beaten under three lengths, and is very much one to consider, particularly over an extra furiong. Sharp lamp was shishing fast in that to Bold Pflort (Lift Boy 11m) here 13 days ago after a three-month break and should win more races.

3.20 BIRD IN THE HAND HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 addled 3YO 7f Penalty Value £3,404 - 5 decianed -BETTING: 7-4 Effervescence, 9-4 Ultra Boy, 11-4 Eager To Mease, 7-2 Ben's Ridge, 4-1 Forgotte

1998: Banzhai 3 9 2 S Whitworth 9-4 (G L Moore) 6 ian FORM CLIEDE

FORM GLIDE

EFFERVESCENCE should complete to post-Christmas hat-trick. Rechard Hannon's numer did well in a couple of Wolverhampton races before making a winning debut at this course on Boung Day, landing a maken auction by 11 lengths. He followed up with a length and a quarter success from Militroy three days ago under a penalty and goes off the same man now, so third-placed Forgotten Times is no better off. David Griffers takes 50 off Effervescence's back. Uthra Boy may prove the danger. Pat Hastom's Music Boy golding mannaged third of eight to kiss Stamper in a valuable Navimarhet nuisary back in August and won in similar gode at Radicar six days later. He is just 31b higher for this all-weather debut but lacks a recent run. Hastam also runs Ben's Ridge, twice successful in August, including on the Fibresand at Wolverhampton, but he showed little in two starts at that course in November.

ROLLING STONE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3.50 1m 4f Penalty Value £2,596 CASSIVOL REPORTED ROY (528 (T.G.Maks) T.Mills 4 10 0.

00/0004- PAIR OF JACKS (183) (D A Wilson) G L Moore 7 7 13...

BETTIME: 9-4 Yet Again, 6-1 Old Hush Wing, 7-1 Colour Counsollor, 9-1 Cross Talk, Sapphire Son 10-1 Pair Of Jacks, 12-1 others 1998: Effang 6 8 6 C Rutter 10-1 (S Mallor) 13 ran

YET AGAIN is difficult to oppose off just 8 4lb higher mark than when easily winhing over course and distance on Monday. In good form over hurdles (he was a close third to Albernine at Kempton on Boding Day). Gay Kelleway's numer came hone three and a half length clear of Sam Rocket to justify odds-on status and is likely to start at a similarly slamby price today. Pair of Jacks may prove the darger. He has done little on the Flat recently but is another who has been numing well over hurdles and could take achievage of a very low raining (27). Supplier Son was three lengths second to Kedwick frums in the 2.20) here 13 days ago, finishing well after being hampered three furlongs out. Selection: YET AGAIN

# lbrox is no place for 'crazed Red Indians'

Number nine will be uppermost in the minds of those players in the Old Firm match at Ibrox today when Rangers will attempt to take a major step towards equalling Celtic's record of nine consecutive championships, established under Jock Stein.

Victory for Walter Smith's side would increase their lead over Celtic, who have two games in hand, to 14 points. Purthermore, it would be Rangers' ninth fixture without defeat against their old rivals.

making serious inroads into the signs are that Celtic will sit likely to return, even though he Rangers' lead but their managback in front of a three-man deback in front of a three-man d er, Tommy Burns, has stressed the need for caution in a game which will be watched live by a crowd of 51,000 and millions of satellite TV viewers. "It is a question of being calm for us going into this game," Burns said. "We don't want to go there like crazed Red Indians.

Celtic have been dealt 10 red cards this season with Burns himself reported by the referee, Hugh Dallas, in the last derby match in November.

Burns is considering a change of tactics after falling foul of Bri-It is a game which Celtic an Laudrup and Paul Gas-

fence, looking to catch Rangers on the break. Yet there may be no starting place for the Dutch striker. Pierre van Hooiidonk. who is expected to return home in the near future and join either Feyenoord or PSV Eind-

Celtic are expected to recall Jackie McNamara with Andreas Thom also in contention, while Paul McStay, the captain, will surely take his place after his comeback against Dunfermline last Saturday.

Rangers' line-up looks easier to predict with the Swedish defender Joachim Björklund

ter missing seven matches because of a hamstring injury. He was due to play at Kilmarnock last Saturday until that game was postponed and could now ioin Alan McLaren and Richard Gough in a three-man defence with Paul Gascoigne, Jorg Albertz and Ian Ferguson

and Brian Laudrup in attack. \*Rangers have got stronger and stronger over the last six or seven years," Burns said. "We came from fourth or fifth in the Premier League to within four points of the title last season. Other people forget that but it

in midfield and Ally McCoist

hasn't bypassed me. Rangers have set unbelievable standards over the last couple of years but so have we. Perseverance is a great thing and we'll keep asking questions of them until the

"If we win we will get a huge lift from it but we would only get three points. What we want most is something in the trophy cabinet at the end of the season. We won't get that if we win at Ibrox, just three points."

Asked if composure would be needed amid the new year may-hem, Burns replied: "Yes. That is the most important element. both in life never mind Old Firm

timidated by Rangers' run of includes five defeats, two of them this season. "I don't feel any frustration," he said. "We have learned to step away from this season and played well in

both games. "At Ibrox the last time we hit the bar and the post and a decision early on went against us. We deserved something from that game after losing a player [Tosh McKinlay] shortly before half-time.

"At Parkhead in November, Laudrup went up the park a couple of times and scored

once. We got caught too far up the field pushing for a goal but it was understandable with 50,000 screaming for you to score. We must learn from that."

Smith would not go as far as that. We've met them twice to say victory for Rangers would all but wrap up the title, but was in no doubt about the significance of one over the old enemy today.
"A lot of people have main-

tained that the Old Firm games are decisive in the championship," he said. "If that is the case, we have won two of the four games already and if we can win this one we'll be in a strong position."

**Hearts** deliver blow to **Duffy** 

Hibernian Heart of Midlothian

Jim Duffy's managerial reign at Hibernian began in the worst two goals from Jim Hamilton and strikes by John Robertson and Colin Cameron gave Hearts their biggest Premier Division win over their Edinburgh ight's soure Hart

neighbours.

Hearts won comfortably against a Hibs' team hampered by the sending-off of the de-fender Andy Millen seven minutes from half-time for a second bookable offence. Millen will be suspended for Saturday's match against Rangers at Easter Road.

Hibs started brightly and Pat McGinlay came close with a header which flashed past Gilles Rousset's post. Then the excellent Darren Jackson edged clear of Dave McPherson but Rousset again came to Hearts' rescue. McGinlay was unfortunate in the 31st minute when his ferocious shot beat Rousset but struck the outside of the post.

Hibs had no time to dwell on that miss as Robertson gave Hearts the lead two minutes later when his effort flew past Jim Leighton. Five minutes later Hibs' task was made more difficult with Millen's dismissal.

Hearts took the initiative at the start of the second-half and Leighton did well to counter Colin Cameron's net-bound drive. Hibs, however, missed a clear chance to equalise on the hour. Ian Cameron played a one-two with Keith Wright and was through on Rousset but shot against the bar.

Moments later Hamilton scored his first goal in a Edinburgh derby when he turned in a pass from Colin Cameron with his left foot. Hibs were stunned again on 66 minutes when Cameron thundered in a 35yard half-volley to put Hearts

With just three minutes left, a mistake by Willie Miller let in Hamilton for his second goal to complete the rout.

Hearts have now scored 11 goals in their last three matches to show they have recovered from their hangover after the Coca-Cola Cup final defeat by

### **Pressley** dominates all areas

**Dundee United** Aberdeen

Dundee United showed they are back to being a threat to the top clubs by trouncing Aberdeen at a cauter and replacing there in third place in the Pre-

mier Division yesterday. Steve Pressley, the former Rangers and Coventry defender, was a tower of strength at the back and also took time off from his defensive duties to power

home two headers. At times United were unstoppable as they created chance after chance with a persistence which must have been very worrying for the Aberdeen manager, Roy Aitken. His side 🐚 have now taken just two points

from their last five games. United's veteran midfielder Jim McInally provided the stability missing from that area earlier in the season while, wide on the right, Andy McLaren tor-mented Aberdeen's defence.

Robbic Winters, who scored his side's opener six minutes from the interval, was given an ovation from his team-mates when he was replaced 20 miautes from the end of a one-sided contest. Winters took advantage of a mistake by goalkeeper Nicky Walker, who slipped in attempting a clearance and managed only to pass the ball straight to the striker. He rounded Walker before sidefooting home. 💛

McLaren proved to be the main inspiration in the second half, laying on inch-perfect crosses for Pressley to score with precise headers, before lining up Kjell Olofsson to score from 12 yards for the fourth goal in the 67th minute.

United created several more outstanding chances, only for Walker to atone for his earlier mishap with a series of superb stops.

Dundee Utd: Dylestra; Bowman (McKinnon, 65), Malpas, Pressley, Peny, Pedersen, Classon, Zetterlund, Minters (McSengan, 70), McInelly (Easton, 77), McLaren.

# Shearer's double lifts Newcastle SIMON TURNBULL

Newcastle United Leeds United

St James' Park remained smothered by a blanket of white yesterday, despite the efforts of the Newcastle ground staff. A happy Hogmanay to George Graham clearly would have been watching his team of killjoys smother the life out of their hosts but Leeds, even with four centre-backs in their defensive blanket, failed to strangle Kevin Keegan's en-

tertainers. Graham's negativity was a limited success. Newcastle, after half an hour of sublime hightempo push-and-run play, were reduced to nervous wrecks before their second goal, 13 min-

utes from time. By the final whistle, though, the Toon Army were marching into the new year as they had the old: with hope of silverware in their hearts. And the 1,800 contingent from Leeds left for home with more fear than hope

Last year may have been a nightmare for Newcastle but it was a vintage one for Alan Shearer and English football's 16th goal as a £15m man was only five minutes in coming. His 17th was the vital one yesterday. though, as Newcastle strung together successive Premiership victories for the first time

in three months. Having started the year with five straight League wins and lost 11 in the year, as well as that 12point lead last season, Tyneside will be wary of false dawns.

Keegan himself acknowledged: "We've got a hell of a job on our hands to win the League. We've already lost six games but we may be lucky. This could be the season when a team loses nine or 10 games and still wins

Graham's priority yesterday was not losing goals. In addition to his customary three centrebacks, his efforts to stem Newcastle's attacking flow extended to deploying Lucas Radebe as Peter Beardsley's shadow.

The Newcastle captain would probably not be surprised to discover the South African at his 36th birthday party on the 18th of the month, so close was their

acquaintance yesterday. Unfortunately for Graham, however, Radebe could not get close enough to his man in the

A left-wing corner was a blessed release for Beardsley even at that stage of the game and he made the most of it. floating the ball on to the head of Les Ferdinand, who nodded down for Shearer to score with a rifling volley.

Had Newcastle been confronted with a tottering defence like Tottenham's they might have delivered another seven goals. As it was, the white-shirted blanket started to take effect after Nigel Martyn parried a Beardsley snap-

By half-time, Newcastle's hyperactive midfield battery looked in need of a recharge. Leeds did not threaten Shaka Hislop's goal until the 60th minute but in a seven-minute spell of probing which increasingly exposed Newcastle nerves lan Rush could have matched his three-goal Premiership tal-

Newcastle's salvation arrived. paradoxically, in a 75th minute incident which deprived them of a penalty. It was in this fixture two years ago that Paul Danson man of 1996 was in fine first— was in the act of sending of footing form for his club. His Steve Watson for a second bookable offence until Beardsley pointed out that Steve Howey, and not the young right-back, had already received a yellow card. And it seemed the GUY HODGSON Leicester official was mistaken again yesterday when he ig-nored his flagging assistant after Martyn brought Shearer

crashing down. He succeeded in rousing Newcastle's passion sufficiently for Shearer to bag his second goal with a deflected shot two minutes later - and for Ferdinand to turn in Robert Lee's left-wing cross with three min-

Leeds were left without a win, and just a solitary goal. in six Premiership games. "Yes. I am anxious." Graham said, his new year blanket having provided no comfort

Newcastle United (4-3-1-2); Histor; Watson, Peacock, Albert, Berestord; Lee, Batty, Cark; Beundsky, Shearer, Fertimand, Substitutes not used: Elliott, Kitson, Gillespie, Barton, Sr-Leeds United (3-1-4-2): Marryn: Palmer, Wetherall, Beesley: Radebe; Wetly (Gray, 63), Jackson, Bowyer, Dorigo; Rush (Waltace, 75). Deane, Subathutes not used: Harre, Ford,



# Sutton's cold comfort for Royle

Everton Blackburn Rovers

A 12 months in which you lose Kenny Dalglish, Ray Harford and Alan Shearer was likely to be an annus hombilis for any club and it is safe to say 1 January could not come quick enough for Blackburn. A new year, new hope and 1997 heralded in by their slipping out of out the bottom three of the Pre-

miership last night. All very it easy, it was too. They might have been more comfortable in their easy chairs in front of the fire but not much so. Goals from Tim Sherwood and Chris Sutton gave them a cushion to relax on and they accomplished their first away win of the season with the air of men in complete control. They looked anything but relegation candidates.

Everton could claim players were missing and that some of those present were suffering from the after-effects of flu but this was a limp performance. They have now won one

of their last seven matches. Terry Phelan was making his debut after his £850,000 transfer from Chelsea but more importantly, as far as the home supporters were concerned, the eleven included Andrei Kanchelskis and Dunean Ferguson.

They usually provide Everton's cutting thrust although there was little evidence of it in a woeful first-half performance. There were glimpses of enterprise, a dart from Nick Barmby, an occasional flash from Kanchelskis and Ferguson's menace in the air but the overall impression was of a mess. By the interval Blackburn,

who dictated the tempo from

the start, were 2-0 up and could

have been further ahead.

The visitors had accumulated the ball past the advancing which was more physical, and a tidy run of one defeat in eight matches coming to last night's game and they oozed a confidence that belied their troubled position in the league. Certainly Everton did not seem to have a clue how to cope with their runs from midfield.

The left wing was a particularly fertile ground for Blackburn whose Jason Wilcox gave Marc Hottiger a wretched time. After seven minutes the England winger crossed to the near post where Kevin Gallacher headed just over and it was from that same flank that a goal ar-

rived 10 minutes later. Graeme Le Saux chipped in. Gallacher headed on and Sutton's delicate flick landed perfectly into Sherwood's path whose late run into the area had hopelessly flummoxed his marker Barmby. One touch took the ball past the Everton back-line and with a stretch he touched

Neville Southall. The defending left a lot to be desired with that goal but it looked exemplary when held up

against Blackburn's second

after 31 minutes. Neat interchanging shreaded Everton's rearguard so that when Gallacher slipped a short pass inside Hottiger, Sutton was on his own. Even then he had a lot to do

but the £5m striker gauged Southall's position and then shot the ball coolly into the net with his left foot, clipping the far post on the way.

The response of the crowd at half-time proved that not all the boos had been used up during the Christmas festivities and Royle was put in the position of having to do something, anything, to spark a response. His move was to withdraw Barmhy and introduce Michael Branch. It brought an improvement,

Gary Speed provoked immediate hope with a chip that was just over. But when Tim Flowers tipped a header from the same player away for a corner the Everton attack gradually fizzled out. Indeed Blackburn assumed

their early control and Le Saux and Sutton both went close in the latter stages. The promise implied by Everton in the late autumn is dwindling and they will view their FA Cup tie against Swindon Town on Sunday with some trepidation. Their 7-1 win over Southampton seems a long, long time

Everton (4.4-1-1): Southall: Hortiger, Bar-rett, Wasson, Phelant Ranchelsies (Limpar, 70), Stuart, Ebbrell, Speed; Barnby (Branch, h.-tr; Rengison, Substitution not used: Gerrard (gk), Rideout, Branch, Dunne.

Second Division

Blackburn Rovers (4-5-1): Howers; Kenna, Berg, Hendry, Le Saux; Galkacher, Bohrnen, Sherwood, Mchirlay, Wilcov; Sutton. Sub-stitutes not used: Marker, Given (gh.), Fen-ton, Donis, Warhurst.

FA Carling Premiership
Arsenal (2)2 Middlestro (0) Bergiamp 15 37,573 Whent 44
Arsenal's John Hartson sent off, 89
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YESTERDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLED First Division Robson 78 10,186 Stoke (1 Stein 18 12,019 11,946

**POOLS** 

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Bell's Scottish League Premier Division Dundee Utd (1) ....4 Abs Pressley 54, 66 Okolsson 68 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 5 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 23 34 35 35 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 Summary 

Roberts (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Robertson 33 Hamilton 62, 87 Cameron 65 Millen sent off, 38

'astponed: Alios v East String: Queen's P Albion Rovers; Rioss County v Inverness Ca onian Thistie. DIMISION: All matches postponed.

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### sport

# Wright's day soured by Hartson

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Arsenal Middlesbrough

Arsenal's first victory for nearly a month, courtesy of goals by Dennis Bergkamp and lan Wright yesterday, takes them to within two points of the Premiership leaders Liverpool. But not for the first time this season there was a sour post-script to their performance.

John Hartson, who had replaced Bergkamp midway through the second half, was sent off in the final minute for dissent. Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough player-manag-

1985-86

had tussled with Hartson in the Boro LEAGUE DOUBLE penalty area. The CENTURY referee, Mike Reed, saw nothing untoward but Hartson was not happy and 1986-87 1987-88 made his feelings booked and less than a minute later shown 1990-91 \_ 38 the red card for what can only have been an extremely foolish comment to the referee. It was Arse- 1992.93 nal's fourth sending-1993-94 off in their last eight 1994-95 1995 96 1996-97 21

Prior to that Ar-Total senal had made heavy weather of Carear 408 what had looked like

days short of his 40th birthday, became the oldest outfield player to have appeared in the Premiership, but his task in the middle of Boro's defence looked more onerous as the first half wore on.

There were chances for both sides before Bergkamp's spiendid opening goal. First Fabrizio Ravanelli shot just over with a free kick from fully 30 yards. son in the inside-left position ended with him slipping the ball through for Wright. His pullback from the byline was promising but Robson slid in with the first of several outstanding interceptions.

After a quarter of an hour the Boro defence was breached. Martin Keown's long ball was aimed for Wright but he was beaten in the air by Steve Vickers. The loose ball dropped invitingly for Bergkamp, and the Datchman drove a sumptuous right-footed volley from the edge of the penalty area past

Gary Walsh's flailing right hand. Juniuho hit back for Boro and Keown did well to clear the danger when the little Brazilian released Ravanelli. A foul by Tony Adams on Ravanelli then gave the Italian another chance from distance, but this time the free-kick was easily gathered by John Lukic.,

Middlesbrough then sat back and sacrificed the initiative, content to attack on the break. It was a dangerous policy. After being caught marginally off-

side, Wright was denied twice. But just when it looked as though the visitors would reach the sanctuary of half- time relatively unscathed, that man Wright scored his 200th League er making a rare appearance, goal in typical fashion. Merson's cross from the left

> put Mikkel Beck under pressure from Ray Parlour. Beck could only head the ball back into the danger area and Wright once again was in the right place at the right time to poke the ball past Walsh. Middlesbrough

were more of a threat in the second half but it was still a surprise when Ravanelli won a penalty with 13 minutes to go. Jun-183 111 inho threaded a lovely pass through

to Ravanelli, he becoming a rout. Robson, 10 stepped inside Patrik Vieira's challenge but the Frenchman left his foot there and Ravanelli tumbled over. Up stepped the Italian, captain for the day, but his shot ricocheted off the crossbar high into the North stand.

200

We should have killed the game before that," Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, 15 minutes would have been difto link our game, to get four or five passes in a row.

With Wright now starting a three-game suspension. Hartson automatically suspended for three and a lengthening injury list, linking their game might prove the least of Arsenal's MARK PIERSON problems in the coming weeks. Arsenal (3-5-2): Luku: Neown, Adams, Bould; Parlour, Garde (Morrow, 75), Vieira, Merson (Shaw, 79), Winterburn: Bergkamp (Harlson, 64), Wingal, Substitutes not used: Linighan, Bartram (glu.

Affidisestrough (3-5-2): Waish; Co., Robson, Vickers: Liddle, Mustoe, Emerson, Blackmare, Beck: Junnino Highett, 791, Ravanelli. Sab-stitutes not used: Fjortoft, Roberts. Morns, Freestone (gk).

Referce: M Reed (Birmingham).

**Norwich find form** 

# Double ton: Ian Wright beats Middlesbrough's Gary Walsh to score his 200th League goal at Highbury yesterday Photograph: Mike Hewit/Allsport

حكذا من الاعل

# West Ham betrayed by Rieper

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

West Ham United Nottingham Forest

Life may be fraught with uncertainty for Forest's caretaker plaver-manager, Stuart Pearce. but, in the freezing environs of Upton Park vesterday, his side and warming.

them off the bottom of the table and gave Pearce a reason to be cheerful as he looks forward to next week's meeting with the club chairman, when the decisaid. If he had scored, the last sion will be made about whether he stays on in his po-

Dion Dublin. Coventry's

striker-turned-defender, scored

his fourth goal in as many

games since being moved to the

back, but was sent off before

half-time after an ugly flare-up.

points from four games since he took over from Frank Clark. Pearce's right to continue cannot seriously be questioned.

The England full-back, who

has confessed that he finds the

responsibilities of his new task something of a strain, has not let the anxiety seep into his game. On an afternoon when the wind-chill factor questioned gathered something definite the commitment of every player - not to mention spectator -A precious away win lifted Pearce was a model of commitment and his attitude transmitted itself to his team as they held on to the advantage Kevin

ter 39 minutes. The Forest striker profited from a mistake by West Ham's edgier. It was a poor perforficult for us. We had problems sition. Having gained seven Danish central defender Marc mance all round.

touchline in the 40th minute.

Both players slid on the icy sur-

face and Bridges appeared to

kick out at Dublin, who was first

to his feet. Dublin retaliated by

kicking at the striker as he lay

on the ground. The referee.

Graham Poll. had a clear view

of the incident and booked

Bridges and sent off Dublin.

Campbell earned for them af-

Rieper, who inexplicably failed to direct a long, hopeful punt upfield by the visitors' defender Colin Cooper back to his keeper. Apparently under the impression that Ludek Miklosko was coming to collect the ball. Rieper left it and Campbell took the opportuni-

West Ham's manager, Harry Redknapp, was downcast after a performance which saw his side booed off the pitch and left just four points clear of the relegation area. "We gave a goal away that you wouldn't see on a Sunday morning," he said. "It was horrendous. After that everyone becomes edgier and

Coventry survive Dublin's dismissal

vere problems keeping their

feet but Sunderland were more

attuned to the surface and kept

things simple while Coventry

persisted in trying to play short

passing movements which con-

the sixth minute. A cross from the

right was knocked back by John

Sunderland went in ahead in

tinually broke down.

Dublin challenged Sunder-land's Michael Bridges on the conditions. The players had se-

ty of lobbing home.

Redknapp, with characteristic honesty, took his share of responsibility for the result. admitting that his decision to keep the Romanian striker Florian Raducioiu - the 90thminute scorer as a substitute on Saturday - in the starting lineup at the expense of midfielder John Moneur had not worked. "He's not had a good

day but nor have one or two of

the others. The West Ham manager appears to be losing patience with Raducioiu and his other foreign forward, Hugo Porfirio, who was ineffectual throughout. He picked out his 64th-minute substitute Steve Jones as the best performer among the forwards. He could be a big factor for us

swung over a corner from the

right and Dublin rose above

goalkeeper Lionel Perez to knock his header into the open

Sunderland went ahead again

in the 18th minute from the

penalty spot. Mullin was going

nowhere but Liam Daish bund-

led him over near the byline.

now," Redknapp said. "He's honest, he works hard and he can nick a goal." Jones's efforts notwith-

standing. West Ham failed to create a single clear chance. Half-time saw an attempt on the unofficial world record

for bubble blowing. If the Guinness Book of Records accepts the dutiful efforts of the 27 358 spectators it will stand as West Ham s only achievement of the afternoon.

West Ham United (3-5-2), Miklosko, Dicks, Bite, Reper Bowen (Ports, 25), Porfino, Bishop (Lampard, 79), Williamson, Hughest (Newell Univers, 64), Raducoux, Substitutes not used: Monour, Sealey (gs.), Nottingham Forest (4-4-2); Crossley; Lynte, Blatherwick (Philips, 18), Chettle, Pearre; Clough, Haatand, Cooper, Woan; Saunders, Campbell (Gemmil, 63), Substitutes not used: Allen, Roy, Ferns (gs.).

penalty area Scotland's captain

swung the hall over perfectly for

Chances were few and far be-

tween but Sunderland had most

of them. Coventry had only

four efforts on target and scored

Coventry City: Ogrover: Shaw, Dash, Dubin, Teller, Williams, Richardson, McAllister, Salako, Wheian (Borrows, 82), Hucketty, Substitutes not used: Filan (gal., Jess, Buland, Genaur.

from two of them.

Daish to head powerfully in.

Within three minutes Dublin centre by McAllister. From a

equalised. Gary McAllister free-kick on the right of the

### **Brighton** warned about moving

Brighton and Hove Albion have been warned by the Football League that they need to provide several "cast iron guarantees" about their future before they will be allowed to groundshare with Gillingham next season.

Brighton, who have to leave the Goldstone Ground at the end of this season after selling the stadium to the property developers Chartwell for £7m to pay off debts, have said they intend to share with Gillingham.

The League insist it is a premature announcement and they need assurances sooner rather than later about the club's longterm prospects before giving permission for the switch.

The groundshare scheme has been announced as if it is already in place, that everything is cut and dried but that is definitely not the case." Chris Hull, the League spokesman, said.

We need cast iron guarantees before contemplating a ground-sharing scheme and we want them as soon as possible and then there is the 150 mile round trip on top of that.

There are no assurances from Brighton about their future in front of us and that is not the way forward. We need to be assured they have plans in hand for a new ground in the Brighton conurbation, that they have a site in the pipe-line, that they have the resources available and that there is a reasonable time-scale involved.

"If they have all these assurances in place then we will look at the groundsharing option but they don't at present.

"Clubs are not allowed to move out of the area to play unless they have plans to move back eventually and you are probably talking about two seasons maximum.

The League's concern could become hypothetical in the short term if Brighton finish bottom of the Third Division and are rel-egated to the GM Vauxhall Conference, who will take them with or without their own ground.

But Hull warned that the Seagulls might not be readmitted to the Football League if they won the Conference title and were still

The Walsall manager, Chris Nicholi, has signed Mark Smith, the former Nottingham Forest and Crewe goalkeeper, following his release from prison. The 23-year-old, who has just finished a six-month sentence after being jailed following a fight in Birmingham, has signed a deal until the end of the season.

"He made a mistake and has paid for it." Nicholl said. "But he has been here training a couple of times and he is a good goalkeeper. He seems a nice lad and is keen to get on with his career."

### Coventry, twice behind, were That departure sparked Mullin and Bridges struck a Steve Agnew duly scored. Sunderland: Perez; Hall, kulocki, Ord, Mekile, Bracewell, Agnew, Mullin, Gray, Bridges, Kelly, Substitutes not used: Precce (gk), Asson, Pick-ering, Hackingbottom, Williams. happy to settle for the point which brought to an end their Coventry into a more attacking half-hit shot which wrong-footed Daish made amends 10 minmood. Until then Sunderland had dominated looking far covic and bobbled into the net. utes later with Coventry's secrun of four consecutive wins. ond equaliser, again from a Lee the key as Bolton show character

**Vationwide League** 

Norwich City at last found the early season First Division form which has deserted them recently, as the former Everton defender, Matt Jackson, notched his first goal for his new club at home to Portsmouth yesterday. Jackson, who surprisingly

opted to join the Carrow Road side in a £450.000 deal ahead of Birmingham, struck after 78 minutes to secure a valuable 1-0 win. A dreary game appeared to be heading towards an instantly forgettable goalless draw when Jackson took advantage of mistake by Fitzrov Simpson.

The Pompey player appeared ideally placed on the goal-line to clear Andy Johnson's header from a Darren Eadie corner but miskicked horribly and Jack- angled drive.

son tapped home from a yard. A superb double strike from player-manager John Aldridge earned battling Tranmere Rovers their first win in six outings and brought West Bromwich Albion's unbeaten six-match run to a halt at The Hawthorns where supporters who turned up with shovels to remove snow from the pitch

were rewarded with free tickets. An even bigger Tranmere hero was defender David Higgins, who took over in goal after 33 minutes from the injured Danny Coyne and made two fine saves to deny Albion.

Albion took the lead after only four minutes through a header by Daryl Burgess. Aldridge levelled with a marvellous first-time shot and then secured the win with a cracking ALAN NIXON **Bolton Wanderers** Bradford City

Coventry City

Sunderland

Grit was the word at Bolton yesterday, on the terraces of freezing Burnden Park and in the home dressing-room. The home side's manager,

Colin Todd, was only too pleased to salute that quality in his First Division leaders, after they displayed a new side to their nature following a recent hiccup in form that threatened their lofty position.

The fixture calendar has

sive games against strugglers, true grit and I am really de-but Bolton have found them-lighted." selves in time to restore their lead and stretch to five points ahead of their closest adver-

Todd, close to celebrating his first anniversary in sole charge, said after an unremarkable game: "It was a tremendous win. Sometimes you have to grind out results. and I have congratulated the players for the way they have come through a hectic series of

"Psychologically we have put been kind, with three succes-

There was little to warm the chilled souls on the slopes of this ageing stadium until David Lee, frozen to the bench, was sent on to turn stalemate into success with two flashes of his unpredictable skill.

Lee had no right to be in the centre after 67 minutes when a wayward clearance by Nicky Mohan fell at his feet, but he asked no questions as he steadied himself and poked home the opening goal,

So often erratic when crossthe other teams under a bit of pressure. We know there is a perfect ball for Scott Sellars to long way to go, but we've shown nod home a rare header seven

third successive victory, albeit

just before and after two scares Bradford had come to frustrate, in the words of their manager, Chris Kamara, but they realised in the closing stages that the 22 places between them and Bolton were not as daunting in reality as on paper.

Their own substitute striker. Carl Shutt, was inches away with a reaction header at 1-0 and then hit the target from a fine Richard Liburd cross in the 87th minute. Kamara said: "Perhaps we

paid Bolton too much respect. In the last 20 minutes we created better opportunities than

**SNOW REPORT** 

Latest snow and weather reports

minutes from time to ensure a they had done in the whole

While Bolton plan a loan signing of Paul Warhurst from Blackburn Rovers to boost their ranks, hard-up Bradford are left to shuffle their pack in an increasingly difficult battle against relegation.

Kamara deserves better but, with a notoriously impatient chairman, he may yet be one of the first casualties of 1997.

Bolton Wanderere (4-4-2): Ward; Bergsson (Tod, 52), Fairclough, Taggant, Smalt; Green (Lee, 59), Sherdan, Frandsen, Selfars; Blake, McGinley, Substitute not used: Politock, Bradford City (5-4-1); Schwarzer; Liburd, O'Brien (Kraomya, 78), Dreyer, Mohan, Jacobs; Hamilton, Waddle, Cowans (Pinto, 58), Dudury; Stener (Shutt, 67).

Around the resorts

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### TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of one-day cricket internationals won by Zimbabwe - the world's weakest Test-playing country - out of the 64 they have played. Four of those victories have been achieved at England's ex-

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Rangers v Celtic (6.30). Rasketball

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Newcastle Eagles v Hernel & Watford Royals (7.0) Other sports

DARTS: WDC World Championship (Purfleet, Essex). SNOOKER: Liverpool Victoria Chanty Challenge (Birmingham).

Thomas Cook

Phil Newport Worcestershire's former England peceman, is confident that he will be fit for the start of the 1997 season after scarting rehabilitation work folving an operation to cure an actules teridon problem. Newport, one of the is the second problem. Newport, one of the lankey figures in the glory years of the lankey figures in the glory years of the lankey figures in the glory years of the lankey figures in the glory figures. SEASON WITH THE BUTHES SELDECK.

SUPERSPORT SERVES (Final day of four)

East London: 1.30×831 (291 and 162 M Benfeed 53. P J 30\*13 4-47), Border 319 for 8
dec and 1.35 to 3. Border won by five wickgen.

his plans for the future. The five-times Tour de France winner, who falled to win a strin consecutive Tour this year, has been debanne whether to commune with sport or reure.

DIRDER 21 SQUAD (European Na-Dirder Budevice, Cz Rep. 24-Cesice Budevice, Cz Rep. 24-Cesice State (Capt: Blueharts), Cesic Control (Caption), J Binson, R Willer A Bashop Hightown), K Bow-Se, Philler (Balsam Lecester), Se, Philler (Cabtall), H Richards

łce hockey NHL: Buffalo 6 New Jersey 5; Tampa Bay 4 New York Rangers 2; San Jose 5 Calgary 1: Philadelphia 5 Vancouver 3; Colorado 4

Skling Primoz Peterka, the Slovenian teenager, improved his lead at the top of the ski jumping World Cup standings with a win at the New Year event in Garmsch-Partenkirchen yesterday. Pe-terka. 17. produced jumps of 117.5 and

118.0 metres to put him well clear of the day's next best distance of 115.5m, achieved by Germany's Dieter Thoma and Takanobu Okabe, of Japan. ard Takanobu Okabe, of Japan.

WORLD CUP SKI RUMPING (GarmischPerberkirchen, Ger): 1 P Peteria (Sloven241.9pts (first jump 117.5m, second jump
241.9pts (114/114): 3 T Okabe (Japan) 226.7
(114/115): 5 Hiroye Sattoh (Japan) 215.7
(109.57113): 8 D Sonnen (Fin) 213.0
(110/110): 7 N Brenden (Nor) 213.0
(110/110): 8 D Thoma (Ger) 209.1
(104.57115): 9 E Bredesen (Nor) 208.5
(108.5/116): 10 M Laitinen (Fin) 206.2
(106.5/110): World Cup standings (Japan)
242: 3 Brenden 427: 4 Thorne 411: 5 Ok.

432: 3 Brenden 427: 4 Thorne 411: 5 Ok.

432: 3 Brenden 427: 4 Thorne 411: 5 Ok.

432: 3 S Sattoh 323: 7 Wannyosh Funski
(Japan) 293: 8 Nikoda 251: 9 L Oresen (Nor)
221: 10 Sonnen 160.

Darlington have become the new favountes to win the British League Premier Division title following the acquisition of the England squad coach, Kevin Satchell. The 32-year-old, who coached Carl Prean to the last eight of the world

professional circuit finals in China a fortnight ago, links up with the former Eng-land No 3, Michael O'Driscoll.

SPORTING DIGEST

Tennis QATAR OPEN (Doha) Mon's singles, second nound: M Larson (Swe) ot P Fredriksson (Swe) 64 7-6; H Arad (Mor) bt P McErrole (US) 2-6 7-5 7-5; T Herman (GB) bt T el-Sany (Egyl 6-3-6-2; M Gustafsson (Swe) bt D Hrbary (Sloval) 6-2 2-6 6-3.

AUSTRALIAN HARDCOURT CHAMPIONSHIP ALES INACLAIN INSTITUTION OF THE ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS AND ANALYSIS Woodbridge (ALS) bit J Novak (Cz Rept 6-3 7-6. NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S CLASSIC (Auckland) Singles, second round: A Huber (Gen bt A Grossman (US) 6-4 6-2; J Wiesner (Aut) bt S Pationskii (Fri 6-2 6-1; S Cacor (US) bt J K-5; bit Minnstal laut) bt F Label (Arg) 6-7 6-0 6-3; E Wagner (Gen) bt M Weingemer (Gen) 6-2 6-2; T Yanasugam (Thab) bit Lodorsa (US) 6-2 6-2; A Dechaume-Balleret (Fri bt P Hy-Boulas (Can) 6-1 6-1; R Hirah (Lapan) bit J Huserona (Stora) 7-6 6-1 6-4.

Huserma (Sloush) 2-6 6-1 6-4.

HOPMAN CUP (Perth) Group B: South Africa bt Switzerland 2-1. (SA reames first) Singles: A Coeszer lost to M Kings 1-6 2-6; W Fernare It M Rosser 10-6 1-2 nc. Doubles: Perreire and Coetser it: Rosser and Hargs 1-forfet. Group & United Stanes bt Croothe 2-1. (US names Brut) Singles: C Ruben bt 1 Majoli 6-3 3-6; 7-6; J Garrielstob lost to 6 honesetic 6-7 6-4; 7-7. Doubles: Garrelstob and Ruben bt kanseut and Majoli 3-6 6-3 7-5.

ROUD COAST CLASSIC (Hope Island, Aus.) Sevic and Majob 3-6 6-3 7-6.

GOLD COAST CLASSIG (Hope Island, Aus.)
First round: A-G Solo Iffi of K Studenkova
(Slovak) 6-4 1-1 ret; S Appelmans (Be) it S
Testud (F) 6-3 6-4: N Docthy (Fr) bt E Callers
(Be) 6-4 6-7. Second round: 8 Schultz-McCarity (Notth) in M Onemans (Neith) 7-6 6-0;
E Lichousea (Rus) is C Costea (Rom) 6-3 6-4;
A Sugnema (Japan) is R Grande (III) 6-7 6-2
6-3; R McQuillan (Aus.) bt B Rittner (Ger) 7-5
6-4.

### Aamir has Australia in a spin The left-arm orthodox spin-

Aamir Sohail scored a half-century and claimed two wickets to steer Pakistan to a comfortable four-wicket win against Australia in their limited overs World Series match yesterday. Aamir's patient 52 helped Pakistan overhaul Australia's 199 all out to reach 203 for 6 with 27 balls to spare at the

Sydney Cricket Ground.

ner had earlier removed Greg Blewett for 33 and Paul Reiffel for 3 as Australia laboured to master Pakistan's spin attack. After taking 2 for 33 from his nine overs. Azmir added 54 runs in a brisk opening partnership

with Shahid Afridi. WORLD SERES (Sydney): Australia 199; Palustan 203 for 6 (haz Ahmed 58, Aamir Schail 52). Pakistan wn by 4 wkts. Standings: 1 Pakistan, played 3 points 4; 2 Australia 4-4; 3 West In-dies 3-2.

### Slippery slope stops St Helens

St Helens' game against Wigan in the Norweb Challenge second leg was postponed yesterday for safety reasons. David Howes, the St Helens

chief executive, said the pitch

was passed fit by the match ref-

eree, David Campbell, after

snow. However, several of the club's entrances, which are on a slope, were frozen underneath - "which could have been lethal for spectators". Howes added: "We postponed

the match purely for ground safety reasons despite valiant attempts by all concerned." The match will now be played volunteers had cleared it of on Sunday 12 January.

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### On the up Down Under

Hingis and Henman just keep on winning, page 19

# sport

### THURSDAY 2 JANUARY 1997 • THE INDEPENDENT

Di Matteo

### Wright's double century

Highbury's hit man reaches a League landmark, page 21

# **England** suffer another hangover

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Harare Zimbabwe 200 England 179-7 Zimbabwe win on higher run-rate

The new year may have begun, but for England, the hangover was of a distinctly 1996 vintage as they lost their second one-day game in a row to Zimbabwe, Paul Strang taking 3 for 24 to lead the home side to victory and their first series win at interna-tional level. The victory was richly deserved as England once again capitulated under pressure.

In stark contrast. Strang, an oasis of cool in the cauldron, reeled off his quota of nine overs consecutively. Each one including a pearl, or a time bomb, depending on where your allegiances lay, as England lost control. It was a spectacle that the England coach, David Lkryd, had strong opinions about in the press conference afterwards.

"It was a game that was there to be won, and we were'nt up to it," a flabbergasted Lloyd said. "We put pockets of play to-gether, but there is no consistency. It just won't do and we need concentration and commitment every ball. They've got committed players who are up for the game and they fully deserved their success.

When faced with the mediocre, England, appear to struggle far more than any other side in the world, and this was the fourth time out of five that England have lost to Zimbabwe in one-day cricket. It is difficult to discern any kind of pattern when England are in this mood, except that each loss, bar the one in Bulawayo, has come after chasing a moderate total.

For the capacity crowd of from the last three overs. 8,000, however, it was a thrilling and ultimately satisfying match, though one made more so by England's inability to keep a fairly unchallenging run-rate of 4.4 ticking over in the middle of their innings, after rain had reduced the original total of 200, to get the necessary leverage to to 185 off 42 overs before the

start of England's innings. Curiously, the figure was only reached after consultation with the new Duckworth-Lewis table for rain-reduced targets. The method was being tried here for the first time and formulated a final target some 16 runs higher than the previous method of using runs per over. The final irony was that although Zimbabwe technically beat England

rate, they actually scored their

runs more slowly.
For Michael Atherton's team only Alec Stewart and John Crawley showed the range and confidence of stroke needed to hit the accurate Zimbabwe bowling from its well-worn groove. Stewart, in particular, was in storming mood after Nick Knight had gone for a duck, the left-hander making rare contact with a delivery after a bout of fresh-air swipes had

apped his strength. Striking the ball cleanly, the Surrey captain made the most of the fielding restrictions in place for the first 15 overs by go-ing over the infield. The runfest ended when he delicately guided a ball from Guy Whittall straight into the keeper's gloves.

At that point Crawley took over, striking Eddo Brandes for massive six over midwicket. form, something that cannot be levelled at the remainder of England's top order, and in particular at their captain, who came in at No 5, following the end of

Atherton did not play badly, though early on he grimaced as if every ball was a pin being stuck into some effigy of him being held by his detractors. His 25 off 39 balls did not set his team back as Ronnie Irani later did when he took 19 balls to score five runs. That knock was ended by the cardinal sin of being stumped off Strang as he tried to launch the leg-spinner on to the club-house roof instead of the safer shot of

trying to drag him to leg. However, it was Crawley's dismissal, unluckily stumped in the 38th over, after he had squeezed a ball from Strang on to his boot and through to an alert Andy Flower that started alarm bells ringingas 23 runs were required

That finally became 19 from 12 balls, and 16 from six, as Streak and then John Rennie, prevented the England win by bowling a series of low full tosses and yorkers, balls that England's batsmen were unable hit the boundaries needed. But if England's batsmen

had squandered an opportunity their bowlers were almost as guilty, allowing Zimbahwe to score 200 after reducing them to 38 for 4 with Darren Gough and Alan Mullally both taking two

That, however, was before England handed their opponents two extra overs in the first 15 as well as a dozen runs by five runs on a faster scoring through no-balls and wides.



Ronnie Irani is stumped by Andy Flower as England run out of steam in Harare yesterday

spell, when he tried to bowl his whole repertoire every over, his penchant for the spectacular allowing his opponents the vital oxygen of easy runs, when a more disciplined approach would have given England a far Singh, was less impressed by the victorious Zimhahwe side, issu-H H Streak not out ...... (61 rain, 53 balls, 4 for E A Brancies - Attack bell, Andy Flower and Craig

SCOREBOARD FROM HARARE 50: 59 mm, 75 balls, 1,00: 116 min, 153 balls, 150: 171 min, 241 balls, 200: 202 min, 289 balls, A Riower 50: 154 min, 102 balls, 3 lours.

Photograph: Allsport

### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Decline, or nod? (4.3) 5 Carpet, in check again

A long letter (5) 10 In agreement about home being austere (9) 11 Colour of Ireland in

aid (9) 12 Reduce severity of a rage (5)

essence, primarily emer-

13 Bulb giving hint of light in bay (5) 15 Reeling about five? Or earlier? (2.7)

18 Wearing a helmet when speeding? (2.3.4) 19 Court factors, points in addition to justice (5)

21 Car seat (5)

23 It should satisfy anyone going for a long shot (9) 25 Heroism, note, at end of dramatic musical work

26 Call all there (5) 27 Supporter set out for . game (7) 28 Checked cover clothing

toddler (7) DOWN Radical, startling point for an academic (7) Undiluted, getting a couple blotto? (3.3.3)

Paint from form of metal applied round church A dupe, I'm taken in by odd fiscal point (9) 5 It's a wash-out (5)

lead for Lugosi (9)

Gough was particularly culpable, especially in his first

The match referee, Hanumant

ing a severe reprimand to Camp-

Evans for excessive appealing.

easier total to chase.

Wild height... (7) 14 ... steep in character and

brooding (9) 16 Butt of sawn-off rifle thrown into a pond (5,4) 17 Source of wood, apparently softer (3.6)

20 Piano in group Edward played (7) Greek party conservative about State (5)

Earliest vampire novel, a Letter from the States

18 Club member, in drink audibly (7)

23 Aimed at reduced cleavage in robes (5) 24 Last of Mastersingers in prize song (5)

# 'We need to play better when we go abroad'

here and we need to play bet-

ter than we have done when we

ton, who had made 25, was look-

ing to show that the decision to

drop himself down the order to

No 5 was paying dividends. "We would have won the game

if John [Crawley] and I had stayed together. Atherton said.

The captain, Mike Ather-

go abroad."

An angry David Lloyd made it clear that the England team who but now we have lost two games have now become the first international side to lose a one-day series against Zimbabwe will receive a major rollicking.
The England coach, said:

"Zimbabwe have committed players playing in front of their own people. I think they were up for it more than our players. That's a hard thing to say - but Ive just said it.

"Will I get that message across? Don't you worry about "Today's result was very disappointing, and it is always hard to take when you lose. We

must learn to concentrate for every ball - that's for 600 deliveries in one-day matches like "These players are in a position to put it right and they have a responsibility for the way

they play on the pitch.
"We have a lot of hard work to do. We must learn not to switch off on occasions and we will only get things right by working hard.

"Last summer we beat India

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Albans Read, Watford

"But then I put a long hop down long-on's throat.
"I don't think we bowled that well today, even though we had them 40 for 4 at one stage. We also gave away 20 extras and that's naive. I felt there were a

away.
"Zimbabwe played well and deserved their victory. I'm disappointed to lose. Atherton came in for strong criticism from the former Eng-

Back senes available from Hestoric Newspapers, 19988 #40,770,

commentator, said: "Atherton should come in as opener or he should not play. It is becoming an embarrassment to England.

Alistair Campbell, the Zimbabwe captain, was under standably jubilant at taking the series with one match still to play - which is tomorrow's final match of England's tour. He said: "It's hard to put this feeling into words. It hasn't really

We have some very good individual players in our side. Look at the way Paul Strang

bowled today. Campbell, who usually suffers the embarrassment of leading the world's weakest nation, said

sunk in yet. 'We knew we were capable of doing it and now we have shown the cricket world that we are able to compete at top level.

few periods where we gave it he was not used to being tre ed as a hero,

seizes the moment

GLENN MOORE

Chelsea

Liverpool

The most open title race for ears widened further yesterday s Liverpool were dragged back towards the chasing pack by an ager Chelsea at Stamford Bridge. Liverpool's lead is now down to two points and they have played more games than any of their rivals. Chelsea, always spirited and occasionally inspired, are five further points behind and still in the hunt.

The narrow line between success and failure was amply illustrated by a match which turned on the simple banality of a hamstring strain. Until Neil Ruddock reached down to clutch his right leg after half an hour Liverpool had been marginally the better of two uninspired sides. As so often, the identical 3-5-2 formations had created a midfield stalemate. Chelsea, with their 5-1 autumn drubbing at Anfield fresh in their minds, were wary of being caught with too many men forward. With Liverpool playing their customary game of pa-tience the result was all pass and

no penetration.
Then Ruddock went off to be replaced by Dominic Matteo. It might have been the sight of the usually intimidating figure of Ruddock limping off, or it might have been the travelling support's untimely barracking of Mark Hughes, but suddenly Chelsea, led by Hughes, upped

Matteo, so good in that 5-1 vin but now looking rusty, was turned by Gianfranco Zola and Hughes in quick succession. As arguments broke out among the Reds, Chelsea, encouraged,

pressed. With 44 minutes gone Stig Inge Bjornebye took possession just inside the Chelsea half, Dan Petrescu closed his space down and the Dane turned the ball back to Phil Babb. Zola pressured him so he rolled it square to Matteo. As Hughes charged in like an angry bull the young-Michael Thomas, Continuing the theme, laid the ball back towards Mark Wright, But Thomas had passed blind, Roberto Di Matteo intercepted, strode towards goal, and calmly slid the ball past David

James, One-nil. Passing it about is the prin-

sionally it catches us out," Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said. "It was a sloppy goal Mickey's played a bad bail but be could have had a shout."
"He anticipated the pass," Rund Guillit, Evans' counter-

part, said. "It was a game which was to depend on small details. small mistakes." Gullit had made two inter-

esting decisions before the game. He decided against man-marking Steve McManaman. and he left himself out. Both were proved right, just. The midfield was so crowed that, apart from the opening minutes. McManaman was not able to run with the ball and played much of the game too deep. Gullit's own presence was not missed until the later stages when his calm distribution would have helped a defence

which was beginning to hoof the ball away aimlessly. That was after Patrik Berger had come on to add sharpness to Liverpool's passing game. With his first touch he could have created a goal, slipping the ball through for Stan Collymore. But Collymore pulled the ball wide.

Liverpool had had chances. Frode Grodas denied Robbie Fowler and John Barnes at close range and Collymore shot over. Cheisea, too, had chances, with David James saving from Zola and Di Matteo and Petrescu hitting the side-netting..

With Berger's introduction iverpool switched to 4-4-2. Gullit, seeing his team outmanoeuvred, responded in kind and also came close to immediate reward as his substitute, Dennis Wise, played in Hughes on the right. A trademark volley followed, which James touched on to the bar. As Wise dived for the rebound, Jason McAteer hacked it away.

As the teams tired more half-chances came at both endsbut none were taken.

Liverpool's frustration was summed up by Fowler. Still sim-mering after having an opti-mistic first-half penalty appeal turned down, he pushed Franck LeBoeuf, put his feet up to Grodas, and was booked. At the end, ster hurriedly passed forward to as at half-time, he was dragged away from the referee by a steward. There is a long way to go but, already, nerves are fraving.

already, nerves are maying. Chelses 13-5-2: Grobes Duberry, LeBoerf, Carle; Petrescu, Burley, Newton, Di Motteo, Minto (Wise, 73); Zola, Hughes, Substitutes not used: Gutt, Myers, Sincler, Habrook (§A. Liverpool G-5-2); James, Winght (Berger, 65), Ruddock (Matteo, 35). Babb; McAteer, Thomas, Bames, McManarren, Sprablye; Fowler, Collymore, Substitutes not used: Kennetch, Lone, Marren (st).

ranks on Europ



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have way	appointed to lose ." Atherton came in for strong	he was not used to being treat- ed as a hero.	:	Name	Mr/Mrs/M
work	criticism from the former Eng- land fast bowler and captain	"Our public thought we were rubbish a couple of months	١;	Tel,day	
ot to id we it by	Boh Willis, who said the current England captain had become an embarrassment to his country	ago," he said. "I used to get ear- bashed so much when I went out that in the end I stopped go-	1:	Address	
India	after this defeat. Willis, in Harare as a TV	ing to pubs. I had to walk out on several occasions."		Postcode	
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